



The

# CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

Established 1859

28 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

Registered as a Newspaper

No. 2965 VOL. CXXV

DECEMBER 5, 1936

Annual Subscription (with Diary) 20/-, Single Copies 9d.

# Macfarlan

Products

... synonymous with dependability



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OPIUM, RAW AND POWDER



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Established 1780

109 Abbeyhill, Edinburgh; 32 Bethnal Green Rd., London, El. Works; Abbeyhill & Northheld, Edinburgh

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LONDON, W. I



# Advertised Everywhere



# For the Veins, Arteries & Heart

DAY in, day out, year in and year out, the large space advertising for Elasto continues. People throughout the country are constantly reading about this new biological remedy for Varicose Veins, Bad Leg and other Circulatory Disorders.

# Show Elasto It Sells on Sight

Are **you** taking full advantage of this opportunity for **new** business created by this vigorous and consistent camprign? The public **will** have Elasto, so let them know **you** can supply. A reminder in your window will bring to your counter the customer we have already created. Attractive Show Material gladly sent free on request.

THE NEW ERA TREATMENT CO., LTD.
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5/- per Box
(One Month's Supply)

45/- per Doz. (P.A.T.A.)

# One and Threepence Profit on every Sale!



### IS THE WIND RIGHT FOR A BONFIRE?

Almost without exception everyone at some time becomes a gardener.

It might be from choice through being a son of the soil or it might be to save a "rift in the family lute" when one's wife has the advantage of abnormal strength coupled with a desire to see the garden looking tidy.

The "whys" and the "wherefores" are of no consequence really, but gardeners we have been, we are, or we certainly shall be.

That being the case, we who have sampled the hobby (curse) can be helpful to those who have still to enthuse and the first lesson should be centred round the Garden Bonfire that is in more than one respect, the solitary bright spot in gardening.

The novice should learn that the lighting of this should be entirely at the discretion of the wind, which, if blowing in the direction of his own house, should be deferred until such times as it changes into a position that will enable his neighbour to receive the full benefit of the smoke.

Finally, but of equal importance, always stoke the fire from such an angle as will permit the smoke to act as a screen between the neighbour's outraged countenance and your own camouflaged simplicity.

There is, of course, another method of ridding the garden of its rubbish without the aid of a bonfire though it may not be half so enjoyable, that is the more effective way of giving back to the soil that which was taken from it, and this is accomplished by digging a backaching hole and burying it. This method has the advantage of enriching the soil and instead of the neighbour distorting his features with outward signs of rage, he becomes spellbound with astonishment at the lack of smoke and the galaxy of colour that the plants have provided through the enriched soil.

All this is really a little moral applicable to advertising.

One can make a big splash, spend heaps of money and make plenty of smoke, which more often than not results in well deserved criticism by the customer rather than bringing him willingly and peacefully to the fold.

Alternatively, don't make a big, expensive smoky splash, but spend little and wisely, letting good taste and carefully prepared printing play the supreme part, then the results are bound to claim the appreciation and admiration, which, after all is the ultimate aim of all users of print.

# Waide's the Printers

THOMAS WAIDE & SONS LTD., KIRKSTALL HILL, LEEDS 5

# Brustine ARE REAL FRIENDS OF EVERY CHEMIST



#### WHAT THEY ARE

Brustine Bon-bons are two-fold in purpose and are therefore made in two distinct kinds. The WHITE Bon-bon has a definite action on the membranes of the NOSE and the GREEN Bon-bon is for the THROAT. They are entirely different from any other kind of medicated sweet and are recognised everywhere as being unequalled for the Chest, Throat and Husky Voices, etc.

#### HOW THEY SELL

Brustine Bon-bons are sold through Chemists only at a fixed retail price of 6d. per qtr. They show a profit of 50% on cost. With every initial order we will send a unique clockword Sales Bringer which is yours for as long as you wish. This and other show material, together with the free samples sent with every order, will quickly attract highly profitable sales and their efficacy will guarantee your repeat business.

#### HOW THEY'RE PACKED

Brustine Bon-bons are sold in 28 lb. case units containing 14 lbs of each kind packed in 7 lb. tins. They are supplied loose, but with every case will be sent FREE 112 printed bags (to hold \(\frac{1}{4}\)-lb.). 50 samples packed for FREE distribution and with every order for 10 cases ONE CASE WILL BE 5UPPLIED FREE IN ADDITION.

- RESERVED FOR CHEMISTS ONLY
- SOLD DIRECT TO CHEMISTS
- SHOW 50% PROFIT ON COST
- FREE SAMPLES FOR CUSTOMERS
- FREE DISPLAY MATERIALS INCLUDING CLOCKWORK SAMPLE DISPLAY DEVICE
- BONUS FOR QUANTITY ORDER

Display

# rustine

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on your counter



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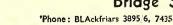
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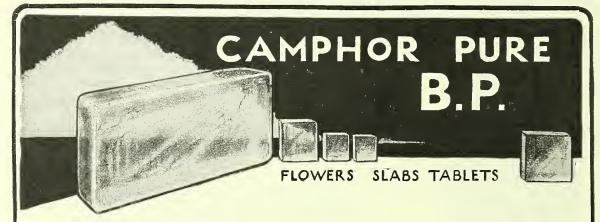




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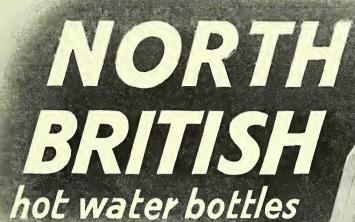
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Below is our attractive range of Moulded Bottles

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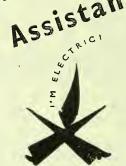
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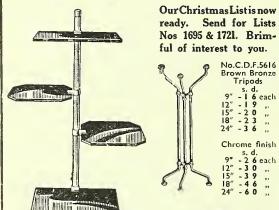
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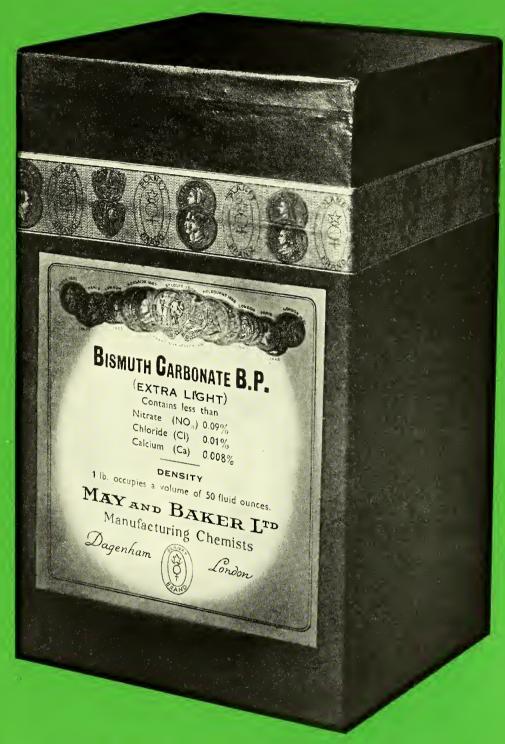
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- On fashion goods we have achieved an equal measure of success, thanks to a large number of exclusive models, the dynamic packing and presentation, and a splendid range of case lots.
- To all our customers in Great Britain and the British Dominions we say, "Thank you very much for your increased support, and a very Merry Christmas to you and yours. We wish you all record Christmas business and a good opening to the New Year."
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MAW OF LONDON



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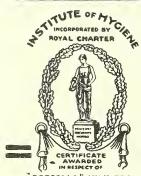
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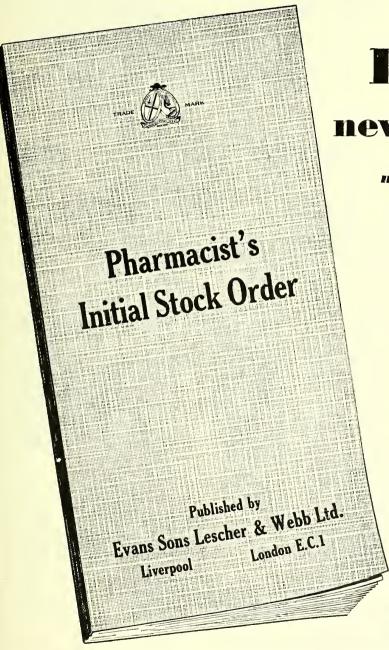
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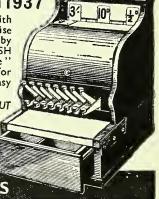


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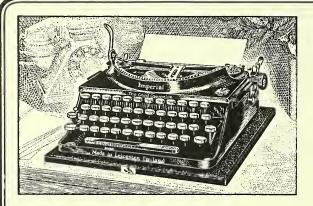
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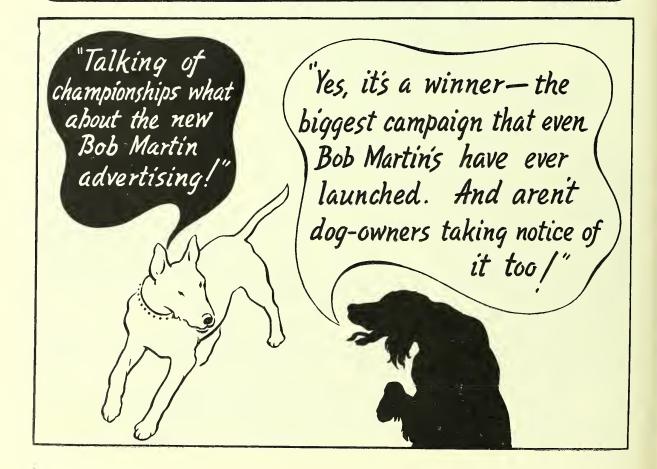
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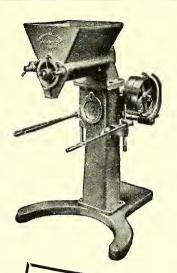
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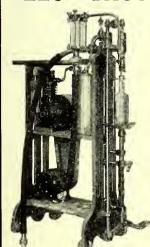
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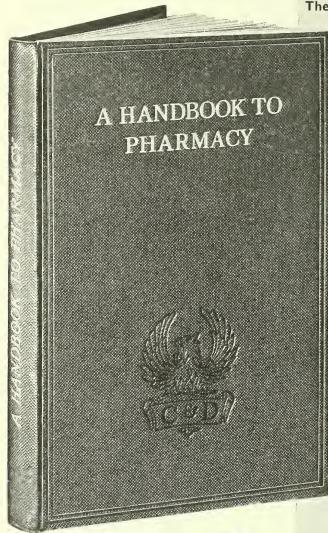
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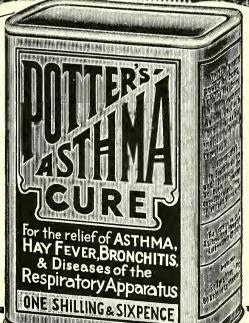
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#### VOL. 125. NO. 2965

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### News of the Week

#### Key Industry Duty Application

Application has been made to the Board of Trade, under Section 10 (5) of the Finance Act, 1926, for an Order exempting OXY-ACETO-MERCURIC-PROPYL-ETHYL URETHANE from liability to key industry duty.

Any communication should be addressed to the Principal Assistant Secretary, Industries and Manufactures Department, Board of Trade, Great George Street, London, S.W.I, on or before December 31, 1936.

#### N.H.I. (Additional Benefits) Regulation

The National Health Insurance Joint Committee, the Minister of Health, the Department of Health for Scotland and the Ministry of Health for Northern Ireland have issued draft Statutory Rules and Orders relating to ophthalmic treatment and optical appliances (Regulations No. 434: H.M. Stationery Office, 2d.).

#### Inquests

The Windsor coroner held an inquiry, on November 27, concerning the death of Miss Mabel Sandford, Slough, who died in A chemist's assistant stated that Miss Sandford had purchased 300 aspirin tablets, and the medical officer at the hospital said that death was due to aspirin poisoning. A verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind" was recorded.

At Worthing, on November 23, an inquest was held on the body of Marjorie Bryant, a manageress, who, according to the evidence, had taken twenty aspirin tablets shortly before her death. The coroner and the house physician of Worthing Hospital commented on the habit of taking aspirin indiscriminately. A verdict of "Death from misadventure" was returned.

An overdose of aspirin was found to have caused the death of Ellen Alice Ellis (43), upon whose body an inquest was held by the Portsmouth city coroner (Mr. P. H. Childs, J.P.), on November 27. The deceased's husband, George Cyril Ellis, stated that his wife had lately been suffering from nerves, but her general health appeared to be good. She had a bottle of aspirin tablets which she took usually about three at a time. Mr. R. P. Page, city analyst, stated that the stomach contained about 17 gr. of aspirin, but it was possible that a quantity of the aspirin had been got rid of. The doctor, recalled, said he had no doubt that death was due to an excessive dose of aspirin, and a verdict was returned to this effect.

At St. Pancras (London), on December 1, a verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind" was recorded at an inquiry concerning the death of Dr. W. A. Fitzherbert, of the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, W.C.I, who was found dead in a bath at the hospital. Mr. L. C. Nicholls, chemist at the Police Laboratory, said he found that the hypodermic syringe picked up contained a small quantity of a solution of a morphine salt, and a glass vial contained little particles of a morphine salt. There was no evidence of any other drug except morphine. The liver and brain contained morphine to the extent of 11 gr. and  $\frac{1}{6}$  gr. respectively. He would anticipate that the dose was about 10 gr.

The opinion that death was due to heart failure resulting from toxæmia brought about by taking aspirin was returned

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at an inquest held at Durham County Hospital, on November 30, on the body of May Elwick, Page Bank. The medical theory was that the woman had an idiosyncrasy for the drug. The organs of the body had been submitted to bacteriological examination at Armstrong College and subsequently to an analytical examination. The analyst reported that the only abnormal substance found in the organs was a minute quantity of salicylic acid, which might have been derived from the drug. The quantity was so small as to be unlikely to be connected with the death unless the woman "was one of those rare cases possessing an idiosyncrasy for aspirin." A verdict of "Death by misadventure" was returned.

#### "Stop" Action in the Grocery Trade

"The Grocer" of November 28 had a page advertisement headed "Collective stop action is being operated by manufacturer-members of the Grocery Proprietary Articles Council,

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#### Sessional Events

Despite heavy fog, a dance arranged by the Wolverhampton Chemists' Association at Beattie's Café was well attended. Dancing was preceded by a short whist drive. Proceeds were for the Society's Benevolent Fund.

Dr. J. Stanley White (Parke, Davis & Co.) gave an address on "Hormones" at the Angel Hotel, Peterborough, on November 24, to a gathering of Peterborough chemists and doctors. Mr. H. E. Whitwell (president, Peterborough Chemists' Association) presided. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides

The second business meeting of the Thames Valley District Pharmacists' Association was held at Kingston-on-Thames on November 24, when an address was given by Mr. Nelson Clarke (Richmond) on "Colour Photography." This was illustrated with lantern slides. The views shown were of the northern capitals and various ports bordering on the Mediterranean Sea, together with views in colour of Kew and Hampton Court gardens.

The annual dinner of the Colchester and Chelmsford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held at the County Hotel, Chelmsford, on November 26. Mr. E. S. Peck (past-president of the Pharmaceutical Society) dealt with the labelling of poisons and gave those present an excellent talk on their responsibilities from January 1. Mr. S. J. Stearn, J.P. (past-

chairman, N.P.U. Executive), made a strong appeal for the support of the Chemists' Friends scheme. Mr. L. Piper (president of the Ipswich Branch) also briefly responded for the visitors

#### London

At Lambeth Police Court, recently, Dr. A. D. Maxwell was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in the second division for being in unlawful possession of "dangerous" drugs.

At London Sessions, recently, James O'Connor (45), described as a chemist, was sentenced to twenty-one months' imprisonment on two charges of obtaining money by posing as a doctor. Other cases were taken into consideration.

At the Central Criminal Court, on December 1, John Edwin Wright (28), described as a traveller, was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment for offences in connexion with trade directory advertisements. The judge remarked: 'It is amazing that people will go on paying sum after sum for advertisements in directories which have never appeared.'

On November 30 the Crystal Palace, for many years a landmark in South-East London, was almost entirely destroyed by fire, little being left standing except the towers. On its erection in Hyde Park in 1851 the Palace was the home of the first International Exhibition; and in 1920 it was again associated with the drug trade by housing the British Industries Fair. (Picture on p. 637.)

At a meeting of the North-East and East London Pharmaceutical Association at Hackney, on November 19, a film was shown depicting processes in the manufacture and standardisation of diphtheria antitoxin and the preparation and testing of vaccine lymph. The film was introduced by a lucid address on the theory underlying the evolution and use of diphtheria antitoxin and prophylactics by Mr. J. E. Ellery (Evans' Biological Institute). Mr. A. F. Huggins (vice-president) was in the chair.

The annual dinner and dance of the London College of Pharmacy at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.I, on November 25, was attended by 222 students, friends and "Old Cyanides." Prior to the arrival of the chairman (Mr. I. G. Rankin) and Mrs. Rankin, there was a general inspection of various emblems and mascots of the College. Speeches were made by Mr. Lloyd (chairman, social committee), Mr. Rankin, Miss Quibell, Mr. Harvey, and by representatives of various sports clubs.

#### Manchester

The Manchester and District Pharmaceutical Masonic Association held their first ladies' evening on November 25 at the Masonic Temple, Salford. The guests were received by the chairman (Bro. S. H. Hummel) and Miss H. Hummel. After the loyal toast had been honoured, the toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by Bro. Gee, "The Ladies" by Bro. Bridgford, and "The Visitors" by Bro. Bellringer. Replies were by Bro. Hummel, Miss H. Hummel and Bro. E. Hunter, respectively. In a whist drive, conducted by Bro. Tyler, the following were the prize-winners:—Ladies: (1) Mrs. Wild, (2) Mrs. Keeler Oldfield; highest single score, Mrs. Bellringer; hidden number, Mrs. E. Hunter; travelling prize, Mrs. Beardsall. Gentlemen: (1) Bro. Wild, (2) Bro. Hummel. An interval for refreshments followed, and dancing continued, Bro. Fisher acting as M.C.

#### Nottingham

Mr. C. E. Reynolds presided over a large meeting of the Nottingham and District Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at Marsden's Café, Milton Street, Nottingham, on November 17, when an address on "Psychology in General Practice" was given by Dr. W. S. Whimster. Dr. Whimster said that the subconscious mind was dominated by natural instincts (fear, sex, herd, and others). Psycho-neurosis was a state of mind brought about by the repression or suppression of natural instincts and the desire to escape from a state of fear into one of comparative safety, however slight. It had been calculated, he said, that 60 per cent. of cases coming before a regional medical officer under the N.H.I. Acts were psycho-neurotic Questions were raised by Messrs. W. J. Clay, J. R. Ball, W. E. Newbold, J. H. Atherley, J. Hutchby, H. Jackson. Mr. W. J. Clay proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Whimster.

#### Oxford

Mr. F. G. Wells (a member of the Society's Council) addressed a joint meeting of branches of the Pharmaceutical Society and of the N.P.U., held at the Town Hall, Oxford, on November 25, Mr. Horatio C. Goodall in the chair. Mr. Hepworth, who stated he had been in Oxford only eight months, asked leave to propose that immediate steps be taken to ascertain whether some form of local social activity could be inaugurated. The chairman pointed out that a spirit of fraternisation had been greatly in evidence in the past; that at all meetings it had been the custom of president and secretary to greet individually all who attended. He very much doubted if the Branch could successfully run a social side, but would raise no adverse criticism to the proposal being tried by those who were enthusiastic in the matter. Mr. F. G. Wells spoke on "Organisation and the Present-Day Problems of Pharmacy." Mr. Wells said he was a member of a branch of the Society which had a membership of 600, and offered a suggestion that the Oxford Branch, being comparatively small, might find a combined dance and whist drive a form of social activity which would appeal to younger members more than a formal dinner. He proceeded to describe the work of various committees of the Council. He mentioned the cost to each candidate for election to Council as being about £100. He said fourteen of the present Council were engaged in retail business, two were retailers with wholesale interests, three were retired, one was on the staff of a hospital and one was a wholesaler. He stressed the advantage of having available to the Council services such as the present treasurer of the Society was competent to give. Mr. Wells stated that out of 121 branches eligible to send delegates to the Bournemouth Conference there was an attendance of seventy-seven. Certain recommendations to Council were passed by the delegates, but the Council were not bound to act upon any of the resolutions passed at meetings of branch delegates. Other topics were touched upon by Mr. Wells. Mr. R. Smart suggested that the patent medicine licence fee should be based on the assessment value of premises.

#### Sheffield

The annual dinner and dance of the local Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held at the Royal Victoria Hotel on November 26. Mr. C. H. Hallatt, the president, and Mrs. Hallatt received the guests. Dancing continued until 2 a.m.

It has been recommended by a subcommittee of the Sheffield Insurance Committee that in view of the treatment accorded to "a resolution of major importance" from Sheffield at the annual meeting of the National Association of Insurance Committees the local Committee resign from the Association.

#### Miscellaneous

The Medical Register.—Orders for the office edition of the Medical Register, 1937, published by the General Medical Council at the price of 10s. a copy, post free, must be received, with a remittance, at the office of the Council, 44 Hallam Street, London, W.I, not later than December 31. The Council also prepare monthly lists of names added to, and removed from, the Register; particulars can be obtained on application to the office of the Council.

New institute of chemo-therapy.—Speaking at the annual dinner of the Royal Society in London on November 30, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced a Government grant of £30,000 a year towards the establishment of an institute of chemo-therapy. The grant has been made in response to a request from the Medical Research Council, supported by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and endorsed by the Lord President of the Council.

Christmas shopping.—The Home Secretary has made an Order under Section 7 (1) of the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, suspending the operation throughout England and Wales of the provisions of that Act relating to general closing hours from Friday, December 18, to Thursday, December 24, 1936, both days inclusive. This Order does not, however, suspend the operation of the provisions relating to the closing of shops on the weekly half-holiday. Nor does the Order in any way affect the operation of the provisions of the 1912 and 1934 Acts relating to the shop assistants' half-holiday and the regulation of hours of young persons.

#### Irish Notes

#### Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund

The pharmacy dance organised by the ladies' pharmacy social committee in aid of the Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund, which was held in the Plaza, Chichester Street, Belfast, on November 26, was a great success. Guester came from all over the North of Ireland and from the Free State, and more than 600 people were present. The ladies' social committee, which had made admirable arrangements, consisted of Mrs. Fred Storey (chairman), Mrs. S. S. Badger, Mrs. W. Martin, Mrs. C. Abernethy, Mrs. R. Dwen, and the Misses E. Crawford, Ph.C., L. M. Forrest, M.P.S., E. Fox, Ph.C., and M. M. Murray, Ph.C. Miss A. Laverty, M.P.S., was an efficient secretary, and she was assisted by Miss R. J. W. Barry, B.Sc., Ph.C., and Miss K. A. Patterson (treasurer). The stewards at the dance were Messrs. S. Gibson (president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland), J. McGregor (president of the Ulster Chemists' Association), F. Storey (president of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland), J. Adams, L. Abernethy, J. R. Guiler, J. T. Nicholl, W. C. Tate, R. Linehan, and A. Steede.

Guests included Miss Connolly (chairman of the Derry Chemists' and Druggists' Association), Councillor and Mrs. Groves, Mrs. P. Larkin (Drogheda), Miss Lawson (Limavady), Mrs. Swanston (Bangor), Mrs. James M'Fadden, Miss Scott (Antrim), Miss Welshman (Winnipeg), Mrs. S. Irwin, Miss Ellie Martin, Miss Edith Martin, Miss O. Laverty, Miss Margaret Storey, Miss Maureen Storey, Miss Joan Storey, Miss Lena King, Miss Thée McFadden, Miss Pat Henderson and Miss Claire Ellis. A display of modern ballroom dancing was given by the Neely School of Dancing.

Prizes for spot and novelty dancing were presented by Mrs. S. S. Badger, Miss M. Murray Mr. Fred Storey, Mr. J. Ellis, Kirk Thomas, Ltd., Encos, Ltd., Manex, Ltd., Potter & Moore, Ltd., Crystal Products, Ltd., H. H. Ayer & Co., Ltd., and Innoxa (England), Ltd. (Picture on p. 637.)

#### Irish Drug Association

The fortnightly meeting of the Committee of the Irish Drug Association was held on November 30, Mr. P. A. Brady (president, in the chair. It was reported that representatives of certain manufacturers were approaching I.D.A. members and intimating that their firms confined their business to chemists and druggists. Where such statements were made, members were asked to verify them by reference to the approved list of manufacturers, a revised and up-to-date copy of which can be had on application. The Committee wished to remind members of their obligations to manufacturers. The advertising scheme which the Association is promoting in conjunction with the firms on the approved list was handed to the subcommittee. It was stated that the secretaries of various guilds, associations and other bodies were circularising traders who might desire to give discounts to their members during the coming year. The circular and questionnaire compiled by the subcommittee in connexion with the "penny sales" was passed.

It was agreed that the Committee should meet representatives

It was agreed that the Committee should meet representatives of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks on the question of the hours of business during Christmas week. The secretary and Mr. Brendan Smith (organiser) reported on interviews with the manufacturers' representatives during the previous week in connexion with the advertising scheme. On the motion of the president, seconded by Mr. A. J. Donnell, a vote of sympathy with Mr. P. C. Cahill on the death of his father was passed. The following new members were elected: Messrs. A. M. Mullan, Leix; P. J. Griffin, Tullow, co. Carlow; W. J. Burke, Youghal; E. R. Owen, Youghal.

#### **Brevities**

Mr. J. Sandford, L.P.S.N.I., has been elected president of the Portadown Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. I. W. Parker, who (as recorded on p. 610 of last week's issue) has been co-opted to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, is one of the most respected chemists in Ulster. Mr. Parker served his apprenticeship to Mr. Samuel McKinney, Cookstown, after which he extended his experience for a short period in Lurgan. He then went to Enniskillen, entering the service of Thompson & Co., 4 Darling Street, of which he is now the proprietor. In his leisure Mr. Parker is interested in farming.

#### Scottish Notes

#### **Brevities**

The first of a series of drug shops to be inaugurated by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., was opened on November 23 at 806 London Road, Glasgow.

Drug travellers who experienced a brisk demand for goods at the beginning of autumn are now complaining of slackness. Sundriesmen report good business due mainly to the extra buying for Christmas.

A correspondent (16/10) writes:—"The practice now being adopted by some wholesale houses of charging extra on fractions of a dozen proprietaries is causing many chemists to make a number of articles formerly ordered from wholesalers."

The annual reunion and dance of the Dundee School of Pharmacy Former Students' Association will be held in Gray's Rooms, Perth Road, Dundee, on December 25 at 8 p.m. Former students who have not received a personal invitation are cordially invited; tickets are 5s. each, and all who intend to be present should notify the secretary, Mr. W. E. Foote, 41 Glenprosen Terrace, Dundee, not later than December 21.

Under the auspices of the pharmaceutical section of the Shop Assistants' Union, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, O.B.E., gave an address on "Pharmacy and the State" at a meeting of pharmaceutical employees held at 30 Walker Street, Edinburgh. Mr. Rutherford Hill showed how British pharmacy is related to the State through Royal Charters and various Acts of Parliament.

At the annual meeting of the Coatbridge Merchants' Association there was a discussion on the possibility of obtaining a curfew for shopkeepers, warning them of the closing time. Mr. F. W. Bushe (secretary) said that as a result of the new closing hours operating in the district, there was a lack of uniformity in the hour of closing among the shopkeepers. He was informed that the authorities did not desire to take any

action until the experiment had been thoroughly tested. The meeting decided to communicate with the town clerk on the matter.

A dance was held in the Station Hotel, Perth, on November 25, under the auspices of the Perthshire Pharmacists' Association and the East and Central Branch of the Scottish Pharmaceutical Society. Whist prizes went to: Ladies, Mrs. J. M. Farquhar, Perth; Miss Pearson, Perth (after a tie); (Consolation) Miss Menzies, Perth; Gentlemen, Mr. Brown, Dundee; Mr. W. B. Forbes (after a tie); (Consolation), Mr. Pringle (T. & H. Smith, Ltd.); Spot dance prizes were won by Mr. Duncan, Perth, and Miss Napier, Dundee. Arrangements were made by the following committee: Messrs. Davidson, J. B. MacDonald, W. Fulton, A. R. Stewart and W. B. Forbes (secretary).

#### Aberdeen

A suggestion by Professor L. S. P. Davidson that Aberdeen could give a lead to Scotland in fighting rheumatism was brought to the notice of Aberdeen Trades and Labour Council, by whom it was unanimously agreed that the question should be remitted to the executive committee to see what steps could be taken to assist in the formation of clinics to combat the disease.

Dr. Robert Hutchison, who gave the Dr. Isaac Gilchrist lecture on "The Progress and Present Aspect of Medical Science" at Marischal College, Aberdeen, on November 12, said that preventive medical science had greater achievements to its credit than had curative medical science. "Speaking as a clinician," he continued, "I cannot admit the existence of widespread under-nutrition or even malnutrition amongst our people. I am of opinion that the improvement in the public health to be effected by improved nutrition, and particularly by an increased consumption of the so-called 'proceditive foods,' is not likely to be as great as is often anticipated." Dr. Hutchison stated that too much was heard of the triumphs of medicine and too little of its failures.

# **Topical Reflections**

By Xrayser

#### The Evolution

of what is now known as pharmacy, using the term in a wide sense, has been slow. If we go back to, say, the beginning of the eighteenth century, and examine the heterogeneous collection of articles which appeared in the Pharmacopæia in use then, we shall be struck with the preponderance of the animal and vegetable over the mineral. Many of the animal medicines had ceased to appear in lists of drugs by the end of the eighteenth century; in fact, a list of that date contains practically all the drugs and chemicals that are found in a modern one, with, of course, numerous additions of galenicals and particularly of fine chemicals. It seems likely that in the rebound from the empiricism of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the pharmacist has ignored many of the "simples" and herbs which formed such a large proportion of his stock then; your suggestion, therefore, on p. 619 that in the selling of medical herbs there is an opportunity for the pharmacist to add a useful side-line to his existing business is a sound one. It need not usurp in any way his main business of dispensing. I can well imagine that, as pointed out in the article on p. 623, it brings into the pharmacy a new class of buyer—if I may say so in no unkind spirit, a rather more "faddy" class than the average visitor; these, however, spend their money readily and should receive full attention.

#### I Have already Commented

on the first article of the series on "Problems in the Shops Acts," and I should like to deal with one or two points raised in the second article on the subject (p. 613), as in my opinion more practical articles have never appeared in the C. E- D- Perhaps I speak feelingly on the subject of heating the pharmacy, for I remember my apprenticeship days and the suffering I endured (there is really no other word for it) in the cold shop wherein I spent several winters. In many of the shops in those days there was no

provision for heating; all the heat we had was a small oil stove over which we strove to warm our cold hands, much as Bob Cratchit attempted to warm his over the flame of a candle, as depicted by Charles Dickens in "A Christmas Carol." My next experience was better. We had a large shop with a large square stove burning coke; the flue passed through the wall. The smooth, well blackleaded top was a most useful place upon which to pipe hard pill-masses, and on many a cold winter day I have spent hours at this kind of work. Another experience was in a pharmacy the back part of which had once been a sitting room; the fireplace had been left intact. There was certainly plenty of dusting to be done after a good fire had been kept going. I have tried gas heating, which means considerable condensation of water vapour and using up of oxygen; and I agree that for cleanliness and freedom from products of combustion electric heating takes a lot of beating. I should, however, like to see some comparative figures given on electric, gas and, say, central heating.

#### I Am thoroughly in Sympathy

with the views expressed by two of the candidates for election to the retail section of the P.A.T.A. (p. 631), when they claim that members of that section should be bona-fide retailers and nothing else. My opinion is, and for many years has been, that wholesalers dominate the P.A.T.A.; and although I appreciate as much as anyone the good work they have done, both on the Council and on the Executive of that body, it must be admitted that the tripartite constitution has sometimes been one in name only. Single-minded service to pharmacy can only be given by men who are engaged in a single section of pharmacy; such alone can possess the necessary outlook upon problems as they arise. I have the greatest regard for all the members of the P.A.T.A. Council as men; my fear is that, perhaps unconsciously, they may allow their judgment to be clouded by diverging interests when big decisions have to be made.





ANTI-GAS LECTURER.-Mr. J. Davidson Pratt, O.B.E., who addressed the London evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society (see page 656).



on November 30, housed the British Industries Fair, 1920.



CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR .-Mr. I. W. Parker, M.P.S.N.I., who fills a vacancy on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland.



N.P.U. CHAIRMAN MARRIES

— Mr. D. A. Bryan, an announcement of whose marriage to Miss Daisy Walford appears on page 645.

(Below) BELFAST PHARMACISTS' DANCE.—Seated, Miss Crawford, Ph.C., Miss Patterson, Ph.C., Miss Connolly, Ph.C., Mrs. Storey, Miss Lawson, Ph.C., Mrs. Martin, Miss Laverty, Ph.C.; Standing, Mr. John McGregor, Ph.C., Mr. S. H. Forrest, Ph.C., Mr. A. Steede, Ph.C., Mr. Fred Storey, Ph.C., Mr. R. Linehan, Ph.C., Mr. Linehan, Ph.C., Mr. W. C. Tate, Ph.C.



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### Legal Reports

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.—At Braintree, on November 25, J. H. Moody & Sons, Railway Street, were summoned for having sold poison illegally at Black Notley. There were other summonses for selling poison without being authorised by the local authority and for selling poison in containers which did not bear the name and address of the sellers. Mr. P. Moody pleaded "Guilty" for his firm. Mr. Thomas Turtle stated that on October 2 he called on Messrs. Moody and cautioned them that poisons could not be sold from a van. On October 27 he saw their van at Black Notley, and purchased two bottles of disinfectant from the man in charge. These bottles were labelled "Poison," and their contents had been analysed. A fine of £2 was imposed on each of three summonses, with £2 2s. costs, a total of £8 2s.

At Reading Police Court, on November 27, Mrs. Rhoda G. Napier, Caversham Road, was summoned for contravening the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933. The summonses were in respect of (1) not being an authorised seller, (2) selling upon premises which were not registered, (3) the sale not being effected by or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist, and (4) not having the name of the seller on the label. Mrs. Napier pleaded "Guilty." Mr. A. C. Castle, prosecuting on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society, said the summonses were issued under various subsections of Section 18 of the Act. The defendant carried on a drug store in Reading and had no pharmaceutical qualifications. On August 20 an inspector of the Society called at the defendant's premises and purchased a bottle of Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne. Evidence of purchase having been given, Mr. Thorowgood said the defendant told him that she did her best to read the highly complicated and technical regulations of the Act. She gave strict instructions to her employees that Part I poisons should not be sold to anyone. The offence was committed in her absence. She was registered for the sale of Part II poisons, and she was under the impression that she could supply Part I poisons to doctors, veterinary surgeons and dentists. She had disposed of her small stock, and did not intend to carry any more such poisons. The Bench imposed a fine of £5 on the first summons. The other three summonses were dismissed on payment of 12s. costs, and the defendant was also ordered to pay £3 3s. costs.

At Slough, recently, Gerald H. Tuckey was summoned for having sold a bottle of Jeyes' Fluid without being authorised to do so, and for failing to label the carton with his name and address. He pleaded "Guilty." A fine of 10s. was imposed in each case, with £1 13s. costs.

At Uxbridge Police Court, recently, Ernest Poynton, Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, and Hilda Masters (trading as C. M. Barker), Villier Street, Uxbridge, pleaded "Guilty" to selling a poison without being authorised to do so. They were also summoned for sciling the poison without having their names and addresses on the bottles. The facts were similar in each case. Mr. R. A. Robinson, for the Middlesex County Council, said the defendants each sold a bottle of Jeyes' Fluid. They were not chemists, and were not registered by the Council. Poynton admitted he had been told by an officer that he was not entitled to sell the fluid, but he only had one bottle left, and did not intend to sell it any more. The other defendant said she did not know anything about having the name and address on the bottle. They were fined 20s. each on the first charge, and 10s. each on the second.

At Pontardawe, recently, William Jenkins, a local shop-keeper, was fined 10s. in respect of each of four summonses, and was ordered to pay £3 3s. costs, for having sold a cough mixture containing morphine.

At Eastbourne, recently, People's Prescriptions, Ltd., were fined £10, with £3 3s. costs, for the illegal use of the word "Pharmacy." It was stated for the prosecution that the words "agents for People's Pharmacy" were displayed on the shop front, with the "agents for" in unduly small letters.

U.S.P. SUPPLEMENTS.—A list of suggested emendations of the U.S.P. XI is being circulated by the Committee of Revision (chairman, Mr. E. Fullerton Cook), 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, U.S.A. Manufacturers' representatives and other persons are given an opportunity of submitting to the Committee statements on any point raised.

# New Companies and Company News

P.C. means Private Company and R.O. Registered Office

J. F. Harrington, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £2,000. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, etc. The first directors are to be appointed. Solicitors: L. A. Finklestone & Co., 31 Budge Row, E.C.4.

LASHCREAM Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £200. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists and perfumers, face and toilet cream and powder manufacturers, etc. R.O.: 8 Torrington Place, W.C.1.

Medical Research, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £3,100. Objects: To acquire rights in discoveries and inventions relating to medicine and surgery, etc. Solicitors: H. C. Morris, Woolsey, Morris & Kennedy, 2 Walbrook, E.C.4.

Lawrence Products, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on the business of pharmacists, wholesale and retail manufacturing and dispensing chemists and druggists, opticians, etc. R.O.: 50 Pall Mall, S.W.1.

English Chemical Products, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on the business of producers and manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, essential oils, and vegetable gums, etc. R.O.: 360 Gray's Inn Road, W.C.

BOOKER-JAY & Co., Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and wholesale and retail dealers in cosmetics, creams, soaps, perfumes, etc. R.O.: Humber Road, Cricklewood, N.W.2.

Bradley Embleton (Chemists), Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on business as wholesale and retail chemists, dispensers, druggists, etc. The first directors are not named. Solicitors: G. B. & L. Ellis, 70 and 72 Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

W. E. Pratt, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £500. Objects: To acquire the business of a chemist carried on by W. E. Pratt at "Hillsdon," High Street, Sidmouth, as "W. E. Pratt & Company." Solicitors: Pomeroy & Hunt, Ladysmith House, Sidmouth.

British Neva-Wet Corporation, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals and chemical preparations of all descriptions. Solicitors: Coate & Co., 60 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.

STARKEY PRODUCTS Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemical manufacturers, analytical and consulting chemists, etc. Solicitors: Lee, Ockerby & Co., 3 and 4 Wardrobe Place, E.C.4.

D. P. Fenner, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £1,500. Objects: To acquire the business of pharmaceutical, dispensing and general chemists now carried on as "The Blatchington Pharmacy" a: 111 Blatchington Road, Hove. Solicitors: B. Bunker & Son, 83 Church Road, Hove, 3.

Soluble Sulphur, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £500. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in medicines, ointments, drugs, etc. Victor W. I. Marchand (permanent managing director), "Pinehurst," South Ascot, Berks (director of Allan Cooper, Ltd.), director.

B. LAPORTE, LTD.—Interim dividend of 5 per cent., less tax (same), declared, payable December 1.

Lactagol, Ltd.—The directors report a profit of £9,761 for the fifteen months to September 30 last. This compares with £6,133 for the previous year. Income tax absorbs £1,556. A final dividend of 5 per cent. and a bonus of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. are to be paid on the ordinary shares (making a total distribution of 10 per cent. for the year), preliminary expenses are to be written down by £1,600, furniture, etc., is to be reduced by £170, and £600 is to be transferred to development fund, leaving £751 to be carried forward (against £647 brought into the accounts). The total distribution for 1934-35 was 6 per cent.

# National Pharmaceutical Union

#### **Executive Meetings**

MEETINGS of the Executives of the National Pharmaceutical Union and Chemists' Defence Association were held at 4 and 5 Queen Square, London, W.C.I, on November 24, Mr. D. A. Bryan in the chair.

#### CHEMISTS' FRIENDS SCHEME

The Executive adopted the recommendation of the Marketing and Trade Prices Committee in regard to the publication in the N.P.U. Supplement of suggestions for window shows month by month, and approved the Committee's suggestion for the months of January and February.

The Executive accepted an application made by Dr. Hair's

The Executive accepted an application made by Dr. Hair's Asthma Cure, Ltd., and the Anglo-American Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., for inclusion of their products in the C.F. List, subject to confirmation by the C.F. Committee.

#### RETAILERS' CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

An application was received for recognition of the Retailers' Co-operative Association's dividend stamp scheme; as the Executive was of the opinion that the scheme would conflict with P.A.T.A. principles, the application was refused.

#### BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA ADDENDUM

The secretary reported upon the effect of the Addendum to the B.P. on the tariff standards for certain medicines, and pointed out the necessity of allowing sufficient time for the consumption of existing stocks bought mainly for N.H.I. dispensing. It was agreed that the Ministry of Health should be asked to defer the introduction of the new standards until April 1, 1937.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

The Executive greatly regretted that certain paragraphs in their last Press report, as published, should have given rise to the impression that James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., of Manchester, had supplied a drug store with Chemists' Friends goods. They were now satisfied that this is not the case, and that Messrs. Woolley are operating the Chemists' Friends scheme, as wholesalers, to the best of their ability.

#### C.D.A. Matters

The secretary reported that in regard to the thirty-eight cases outstanding, eighteen might be considered closed and settlements had been effected in the following six cases:—Fair hair darkened by hair lotion used prior to permanent waving; claim settled by payment of £10 15s. 6d. Abscesses caused by lotion; claim settled for £29 18s. 6d. Damage to clothing, handbag, etc., caused by faulty cork of bottle of hydrogen peroxide; claim settled for £1 11s. 6d. Injuries caused by fall in shop; claimed settled for £7 7s. Injuries caused by chain of sunblind; claim settled for £2 12s. Damage to clothing by wet paint; claim settled for 6s. Twelve new cases had arisen during the month, of which four had been settled:—Camphorated oil supplied; claim settled for £3. Damage to car caused by cycling errand-boy; claim settled for 10s. 6d. (for repairs). Personal injuries caused by cycling errand-boy; claim settled for £5 15s. 11d.

claim settled for £5 15s. 11d.

The secretary reported that a member had been defended in respect of a summons for selling mercury ointment (dilute) 12 per cent. deficient in mercury. The case had been adjourned sine die in July to allow the Government analyst to examine the third sample. He found that the sample was only 0.07 per cent. deficient in mercury, but if a small tolerance for compounding was allowed, the sample was not deficient in mercury. The case had been dismissed. Two members had been defended in respect of summonses for the sale of poisons by unqualified persons without supervision. In one case the member had been fined £10, with £2 2s. costs; and in the case of the other member, who had received four summonses, two had been withdrawn and the member had been fined £1 plus £2 costs on each of the other two summonses.

#### Annual Meeting of C.F. Manufacturers

The annual meeting of C.F. manufacturers was held on November 25 at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C.1, Mr. E. C. Cripps (Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.) in the chair. Representatives of twenty-five firms attended the meeting, together with the four representatives of the N.P.U. Executive on the C.F. Committee. Apologies for absence were received from Cupal, Ltd., J. T. Davenport, Ltd., The Paramount Pharmaceutical Products, Ltd., Henri Sardou & Co., J. W. Simpson (Chemist), Ltd., Thompson & Capper, Wholesale, Ltd., Wyleys, Ltd., Wigglesworth, Ltd., Cartwrights, Ltd., Thomas Kerfoot & Co., Ltd.

#### REPORT OF PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Cripps, after welcoming the representatives, presented the report of the provisional committee whose function during the past year has been to administer the Chemists' Friends scheme generally and in particular to exercise on behalf of N.P.U., Ltd., the powers conferred by the Chemists' Friends agreement in regard to the control of distribution. The provisional committee is a joint committee comprising an equal number of representatives of C.F. manufacturers and of N.P.U. representatives. The report included a survey of the action taken by the committee to secure the retail distribution of C.F. listed articles through pharmacists and companies legally trading under the Pharmacy Acts. The method adopted has been to require manufacturers to endorse invoices to wholesalers and to chemist retailers with the conditions of sale:—

"The C.F. goods on this invoice are supplied on the express condition that they will not be resold in England and Wales (except at full retail prices) to others than qualified chemists, companies legally trading under the Pharmacy Acts, members of the medical profession, and to hospitals. Acceptance of this invoice will be deemed to be acceptance of these conditions."

The view was expressed that in most cases the wholesale trade had upheld the conditions of sale on which the goods were supplied. The question of compiling a list of approved wholesalers was discussed, and the meeting eventually resolved that it was desirable that wholesalers should apply to chemist retailers the same conditions of sale as they themselves received with the goods. In regard to the distribution of C.F. lines in rural areas not directly served by a chemist's shop, the committee reported that in the specific instances in which difficulty was stated by the traders concerned to have arisen, investigation had shown that no hardship was imposed on the public as a result of supplies not being made, and expressed the view that it is unnecessary for arrangements to be made allowing distribution in rural areas except through chemists. The report dealt also with the conditions which had been laid down for controlling the supply of C.F. lines through maternity clinics and child welfare centres.

The provisional committee had carefully considered the further lines of development of the scheme, and recommended in the report that the method of control of the scheme should not be modified and that no classification of articles to which the scheme applies other than into C.F. and non-C.F. goods should be made. The form of C.F. agreement between manufacturers and N.P.U., Ltd., had been considered, and the recommendations were made that the requirement of a deposit of £50 be continued and that the agreement, being equitable between the two parties, required no material modification. During the period covered by the report, the number of C.F. manufacturers had increased to forty-five, and the committee therefore recommended that the C.F. Committee be, in future, composed of six representatives of manufacturers and six N.P.U. representatives. The report concluded with an expression of the view that the C.F. movement must be regarded as a permanent feature of pharmaceutical trading conditions. The adoption of the report was carried nem. con.

#### ELECTION OF C.F. COMMITTEE

As the method of nomination had not been laid down for the guidance of the provisional committee, it had been agreed to call for nominations of firms as candidates for election as representatives of manufacturers on the C.F. Committee and to require the nominations to be submitted in writing prior to

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the meeting. The firms so nominated were:—Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., British Colloids, Ltd., Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Genatosan, Ltd., Thos. Kerfoot & Co., Ltd., Westminster Laboratories, Ltd. As there was no precedent for requiring written populations project the meeting the chair. Westminster Laboratories, Ltd. As there was no property requiring written nominations prior to the meeting, the chair-man invited nominations at the meeting. There being no man invited nominations at the meeting. There being no further nominations, the above firms were declared elected as representatives of the manufacturers on the C.F. Committee for the ensuing year.

#### FURTHER PROPOSALS

Dr. S. Brook (Westminster Laboratories, Ltd.) proposed:-"That the C.F. scheme being now well established and having proved to be practicable and efficient, the meeting submits to the N.P.U. Executive that no modification of the principles of the scheme or the present agreement shall be made in any negotiations in which the Executive may be involved." Explaining his object in bringing forward a motion amplifying recommendations already adopted in the report of the provisional committee, Dr. Brook emphasised the desirability of making it clear to non-C.F. manufacturers that no modification of the scheme is intended.

Mr. L. F. Boon (Genatosan, Ltd.) seconded, and the motion

was adopted unanimously.

A resolution "That forms of publicity which manufacturers could adopt to further the scheme be considered "was adopted and referred to the C.F. Committee.

Dr. S. Brook proposed:—"That the advisability of making

arrangements for window and counter displays of, say, a fort night's duration, to be given by chemists to the manufacturers' goods, each manufacturer being allocated a definite period, be considered.

Mr. Mallinson informed the meeting that a suggestion on similar lines had been considered by the N.P.U. Executive. The very considerable difficulties in arranging a rotation of window displays satisfactory to the manufacturers concerned, and the interference such arrangements would cause with the advertising campaigns of individual manufacturers, had convinced the Executive that the suggestion was not practicable. By leave of the chairman the proposition was withdrawn.

#### Message to Retailers

The following message to all qualified chemists was adopted unanimously as a pledge of the assistance of the manufacturers in the furthering of chemists' interests on the one part, and in expectation of the chemists' full support of the manufacturers on the other part:-

"The manufacturers supporting the C.F. scheme desire to put on record, in a message to all qualified chemists, their intention to do whatever they can, individually and collectively, to promote the interests of pharmacy over and above the usual stipulations by which they are bound under the C.F.

agreement.
"They have full faith in the corporate spirit of chemists, and are confident that the latter on their part will do their utmost to reciprocate by fulfilling their obligations in full

measure.

"Threats or criticisms of opponents need not influence either party, as the year's experience shows a definite promise that complete co-operation between chemists and manufacturers will bring success and dignity to all connected with British

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the

chairman, proposed by Mr. J. Stuart Hills.

# Ulster Chemists' Association

The annual general meeting of the Ulster Chemists' Association was held on November 25 at 73 University Street, Belfast, the president (Mr. John McGregor) in the chair. The attendance included Messrs. Alexander Steede (vice-president), W. J. Rankin, E. A. Richey, Richard Linehan, John Adams, James Macauley, R. A. McEwen, Charles Abernethy, James McDowell, J. Wellwood, J. D. Morrison, W. H. Macartney, A. E. S. Simmons, H. J. Deeney, John McDowell, Charles Quinn, J. J. McCann, L. Murray, R. C. Jeffers, and W. Blair (secretary). Apologies for absence were announced from Messrs. W. J. Hardy, S. H. Forrest and W. Esler.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The report of the Executive included the following

The affairs and finances of the Association are in a very satisfactory condition. The membership roll now totals 376, showing a net increase of fourteen. Your Committee was successful in obtaining the consent of the National Pharmaceutical Union to include Northern Ireland in the scope of the Chemists' Friends scheme inaugurated by that body, subject to the consent of the interested firms to amend

that body, subject to the consent of the interested firms to amend their agreements accordingly; it is gratifying to record that so far only two firms have withheld their consent. The negotiations concerning the certifying of the Association as a trade union have now been successfully completed, and a certificate of registration dated September 1, 1936, has been received from the Registrar of Friendly Societies for Northern Ireland.

A series of suitably worded advertisements embodying the registered design of the Association was, in the early part of the year, inserted in a newspaper circulating throughout Northern Ireland, and it is the considered opinion of the Committee that it is desirable that these advertisements should be continued. . . Your Committee would point out that the work of the Association not only benefits the members, but all those other chemists in Northern Ireland who still remain outside the Association, and it is a matter of great regret that these chemists should be content to benefit by the efforts of the that these chemists should be content to benefit by the efforts of the Association and yet withhold their active support by remaining non-members. Your Committee concludes by again expressing thanks to the members for their co-operation and support during the past year.

THE PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report, said it did not cover all the activities of the Association during the They had made progress with the Chemists' Friends scheme, and were determined to take action against any members whose actions were detrimental to the interests of their fellow members. It was their intention not to engage any employee of non-members. In the early part of the year they had launched a scheme of advertisements in the Press covering the whole of Northern Ireland. Those advertisements focused the minds of the public on the fact that the proper person to supply medical requirements was the chemist, and particularly the man who displayed their registered designs. Those advertisements cost £55, and now they were going to follow them up with another series at a cost of £100. Reverting to the Chemists' Friends scheme, the president urged the members to support it and make it a success. Unqualified trading was a very sore point with them. It was likely to grow, and he had taken the matter up with the Home Office, but they were not very helpful. It was really a matter for the Pharmaceutical Society, to which the Association had written. letter had been forwarded to the Government, and they would send a deputation if necessary. Alluding to the Shop Hours Acts, Mr. McGregor said the Government had appointed a Committee to examine them. There were two chemists on the Committee who had heard evidence on the previous Tuesday from two members of the Association.

"As to coding," said Mr. McGregor, "I don't know why

anyone does not code. It is a tremendous loss to a man not to do so." He went on to say that a member of the Derry Association suggested Belfast should be divided into districts, and let each get its own price, but let it code at that price. Mr. McGregor thanked Mr. Esler and Mr. Hudson for their services on the Committee. They were sorry to lose them. He also paid

a tribute to the secretary for his work.

MR. STEEDE seconded the adoption of the report.
MR. LINEHAN asked for more information as to the Chemists'

Friends scheme.

THE PRESIDENT, in reply, gave an outline of the objects of the scheme. By pushing Chemists' Friends lines as well as their own they would be a lot richer by the end of the year.

Mr. Jeffers described the work of the district association on Falls Road, and said it was doing magnificently. They kept the same hours and coded. It was an ideal and practicable scheme.

The President said if any district wanted assistance they would only be too pleased to go out and help them.

Mr. Adams reported on the visit of the deputation of the Association to the Shop Hours Act Committee. They had been received in a friendly way, and put forward the views suggested in their Committee. They stressed the point that there should be a watertight regulation that a closed shop

should be really a closed shop to prevent customers coming in after the appointed hours, and that, as far as possible, there should be no lights after closing hours. As to emergency requirements, he gave it as his opinion that after 8 p.m. they were almost nil. As to closing hours, they had recommended:—Weekdays, 8.0 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0; half-holidays, 1.30; Sundays, one hour, time of opening to be left to the discretion of the individual. They pointed out that a directory was supplied to doctors and police stations, and that a revised edition giving the chemists' business and private addresses, telephone numbers, hours of business and half-holidays was expected shortly. Really urgent things were rarely in demand after regular business hours. As to assistants' hours of employment, the total the Committee recognised was fifty-two hours a week, exclusive of meal times. The Assistants' Association had notified its intention of demanding forty-eight. A clear definition of what is meant by a "closed" shop should be stated and the interpretation not left to Courts to decide; whether the exhibition of a card "closes" a shop, or whether the door must be closed, and if so whether it must necessarily be fastened. Due care should be given to any clauses dealing with lights in view of the increasing prevalence of "late-hour window lighting." In view of the varying interpretations as to what may legally be sold or regarded as an emergency requirement, they respectfully suggested the following wording for card: "Closed to-day except for the sale of articles required for the treatment of sickness, disease, or accident, or for urgent nursery foods and requisites.

Mr. Shinner, who also gave evidence before the Committee, said they pressed definitely for a watertight Act. As to nursery foods after hours, they recognised if they pressed for that other traders might demand it. At present it was illegal to supply those things after hours. A lot of the so-called emergency stuff called for after 8 p.m. was of a frivolous nature. They had been very courteously received by the Committee, and he believed that a definite eight o'clock Closing Order was

THE PRESIDENT: That seems to meet with your approval. It

was nearly time we were getting shorter hours.

THE SECRETARY suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the N.P.U. for their help in the matter of the Chemists' Friends scheme. The idea, so far as Belfast was concerned, originated in the brain of Mr. James McDowell.

Mr. Adams moved that the thanks of the Association be

sent to the N.P.U. for their practical help.

MR. LINEHAN seconded the motion, and asked the members to enforce the scheme themselves. The resolution was passed. In the course of further discussion on the report, Mr. Adams suggested that chemists who had 9 p.m. in their N.H.I. agreements should take steps to alter it to 8 p.m.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mr. W. J. Rankin (treasurer) presented the financial statement, which showed a balance on hand of £799. During the year expenditure had risen by £66, due to advertising and to the fact that they had had to pay £27 for six years' income tax, for which the authorities held them liable. For the first time on record every member in Belfast had paid his subscription, but there were thirteen outstanding in the country.

Mr. Macauley moved the adoption of the treasurer's statement, and testified to the excellent manner in which Mr.

Rankin had kept the books.

Mr. T. MITCHELL seconded the motion, which was passed.

#### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

The following seven members of Committee, who retired by rotation, were re-elected on the motion of Mr. C. Quinn, seconded by Mr. H. Deeney:—Messrs. W. J. Hardy, R. Linehan, James McDowell, R. A. McEwen, W. J. Rankin, E. A. Richey, and W. C. Tate. Mr. A. E. Johnston, 302 Shankill Road, Belfast, having been nominated in accordance with Rule 6. Was also elected, there being every experienced. with Rule 6, was also elected, there being a vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. S. J. Hudson.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

On the motion of Mr. W. J. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Macauley, the amount of the annual subscription was again fixed at 15s., but it was agreed that registered druggists should only be called on to pay ros. (branch shops, 7s. 6d. each).

MR. ABERNETHY raised a point regarding the Private Traders' Mutual Development Association, to which the Association had sent two representatives.

Mr. Linehan said the Association had appointed a new organising secretary. The Association was working hard in the interests of private traders.

Mr. Wellwood urged that chemists should join the Association, which was very useful. Chemists were not at present too well represented in the Association, and it was their duty to

MR. SHINNER reported on the forthcoming advertising campaign in the local Press, and said they had got wordings and layouts from an expert. They would advertise over six months, spending £100. The main idea was to bring back business that was being filched from them by other traders, and to stress service rather than goods.

Mr. C. Quinn supported the advertising campaign.

Matters arising out of National Health Insurance were raised by Mr. McDowell and Mr. Shinner, and instructions were given to the secretary in that connexion.

Arising out of a question on the delivery of N.H.I. medicines, Mr. Shinner said he took the matter up with the Ministry. The local Pharmaceutical Committee, to which the matter was referred, replied there was no objection to delivering medicines but there must be no charge for doing so.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland for the use of the rooms

during the year.

# General Medical Council

The hundred and forty-fourth session of the General Medical Council opened at 44 Hallam Street, London, W.I, on November 24, the president (Sir Norman Walker) in the chair. After the usual preliminary business came the

#### President's Address

which was unusually brief, and for a considerable part consisted of a quotation on the subject of education from Sir Donald MacAlister, his predecessor in the chair. The address was rounded off by congratulations to Sir Henry Dale on the award of a Nobel prize and by an intimation that the chairman's period of office had come to an end.

During the day Sir Norman Walker was unanimously re-

elected president for another three years.

#### DENTAL BUSINESS

On reports from the Dental Board, it was ordered that the names of nine dentists (C. & D., November 21, p. 582) be erased from the Dentists Register. It was announced that the registrar of the Board had been directed to restore to the Register the name of John Black Cochrane Fowler. The Dental Education and Examination Committee recommended that the applications of thirty-three Colonial and foreign dentists for registration be granted, and that the applications of 108 others be not granted. The report was adopted.

#### DISCIPLINARY CASES

On the first day of the session three cases were considered in which medical men were charged with various offences. In the first case the respondent, Mr. John McCarren, Brookvale, Cavan, a practitioner with Irish qualifications, who had been convicted of drunkenness, was discharged with a caution. The other two cases were left in abeyance.

On the second day nine cases were taken. The registrar was directed to remove from the Register the names of two respondents, Mrs. Laura Winifred Sanders Bliss, L.M.S.S.A., 105
Harley Street, W.r (convictions for abortion), and Mr.
Aylmer Douglas Maxwell, M.B., Ch.B., Hampton Court (convictions in respect of "dangerous" drugs). One respondent,
Mr. John Alexander McKinnon, L.R.C.P., Irel., L.R.C.S.,
Liel. Thame (a canvassing case) was told that the Irel., Thame (a canvassing case), was told that his name remained on the Register; and the remaining six cases, after being opened, were postponed for six or twelve months.

The Leipzig Spring Fair will take place from February 28 to March 5, 1937.

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# Liverpool Discusses Sunday Closing

MEETING called by the Liverpool Chemists' Association and Branch discussed the effect of the Shops November 23, Mr. G. L. Clubb in the chair.

THE CHAIRMAN pointed out that nothing but medicines and surgical appliances could be sold on Sundays. There were exemptions during summer months for the sale of photographic materials in certain holiday resorts, but this would not affect Liverpool. An important feature of the Act was that it would be illegal for any shop except a chemist's shop to sell medicines on Sunday. So far as the hours of opening were concerned there were no restrictions, but certain rules were laid down in regard to the hours of managers and assistants. They had to consider whether it was economically sound for chemists' shops to open if they could sell nothing but medicines. He thought they would all agree that it would not be worth their while. The Insurance Committee were, of course, greatly interested in the Act, for their job was to see that the insured persons received an adequate service.

Mr. B. Hale suggested that the Insurance Committee might

be prepared to accept a rota system.

MR. F. Snow said he was wondering whether, if the Insurance Committee would not agree to closing all day, it would be possible to deal with all the dispensing they had to do in,

Mr. W. E. Humphreys said it would be a ludicrous position to have streets of chemists standing behind their counters for one hour. There was not a chemist there who would not willingly render service to the sick, but what they did object to was the selling of shampoos, razor blades, etc. They had to open on a Sunday now for the sake of a few insurance prescriptions, and he asked members not to be duped this time. They had had a few attempts previously to gain a little leisure for themselves.

MR. Clubb asked for opinions on total closing on Sundays. This meeting was being held to hear views, so that they could bring these views to bear on the Insurance Committee.

MR. M. S. Hughes suggested that if they had to continue keeping open for an hour on Sundays they should change it from 7-8 p.m. to 12-1 p.m., as that hour would be better for the doctors and for all concerned.

MR. FURNISS suggested they should have the whole day to themselves. He had a number of prescriptions in on a Sunday, but 95 per cent. or more were written on a Saturday,

and some even a week or two before.

MR. A. C. BROCKLEHURST said that doctors had told him they only saw private patients or urgent cases on a Sunday. In regard to Sunday work, he thought that in view of the small number of patients actually dealt with on a Sunday, the doctor could very well dispense any medicine they required for urgent cases. There was a tendency for people who received prescriptions on Saturdays to go to the pictures and bring the prescription to be made up on Sunday if the chemist's shop was open.

Replying to a question by Mr. Davies whether chemists in the central area of the city would be affected, Mr. Clubb said he did not know what their position would be under the new Act. A shop which was open on Sunday could only sell

medicines and surgical appliances.

MR. B. HALE proposed a resolution that "We, the chemists of Liverpool, adopt Sunday closing in its entirety for both Sundays and Bank Holidays," and this was carried with

one dissentient.

Mr. Clubb remarked that this having been agreed to, the next thing was: how were they going to carry it out? The inspectors would see that this and other Acts were complied with, "even if they had to work on Sundays." (Laughter.) He knew that it was intended to enforce this Act. His point had always been that it did not pay for a chemist to keep open for the sale of medicines only.

Mr. Topham suggested that they should try to get the Wallasey and Birkenhead Branches to take the matter up at the same time, and so get a larger body of opinion to sup-port them. Another member suggested that in that case they should take it further and make it a national affair, which the Pharmaceutical Society's Council or the N.P.U.

should take up.

Mr. Stephen Jones said that there was one word left out of the Act which was in the other Act, the word "urgent." Under the old Act if a man sold a medicine which was not urgently required he could be prosecuted, but under this Act he could sell any medicine. Under the Insurance Act, if they passed this resolution they would force them to have a rota, and they must not forget that they had a responsibility not only to the Insurance Committee but to the public also.

MR. THOMPSON said he thought that the Insurance Com-

mittee could easily arrange for the doctors to give the necessary service on that one day. If it could not be arranged he thought they should still abide by their resolution.

MR. FURNISS suggested they should have a rota. If a

chemist did not stand by it he should be reported to the

Society for unprofessional conduct.

MR. B. HALE pointed out that in the hospitals they finished work at 12.0 on Saturday and did not do any more dispensing until Monday. If they could do it, he remarked, surely the chemists could.

Mr. R. B. Roberts said that if the Insurance Committee said it was not possible to close all day on Sunday they should ask the Committee to look through the prescriptions and see

how many were issued on a Sunday.

Mr. L. Moreton Parry said it was a fact that the local Insurance Committee had stopped their local closing order. They had a chance now of closing on Sunday through an Act of Parliament. The unfortunate thing was that there was no Act of Parliament which could say what one had to sell as a medicine. It was a simple thing to form a rota in Liverpool in a week, but if one man was going to close and another kept open, they all had to keep open. He thought the local authorities would be compelled to see that the provisions of this Act were adhered to, because the Home Office was behind it and they were keen on it. For the first time they had something in this Act which they had not had before. They had the sole right to sell medicines on a Sunday. He trusted they would show themselves worthy of it and not abuse

this opportunity.

MR. J. L. Hirst, as a member of the Insurance Committee, said they would like to know what the chemists wanted. They knew that the closing of shops on a Sunday was an ideal, and he thought that the Insurance Committee would be in sympathy with them, but they were sent there to look after the interests of the people who were insured under the Health Insurance Act. If they could be satisfied that adequate service would be given on Sunday the method by which it was rendered would be of little material consequence. The Pharmaceutical Committee had come to the conclusion that until they knew what the difficulties were they could do no more. They were therefore sending out a questionnaire asking chemists if they had any difficulties under the Act and if they could suggest any means of combating those difficulties. If they sent their replies to the Committee there was every reason why they should have something very much better in the future than in the past.

A MEMBER said it was not for them to tell the Committee what was an adequate service; the Committee should do that. It was stated by another member that about 25 per cent. of the chemists lived over their premises and so were already available for urgent prescriptions.

The following resolution was passed unanimously: "That this meeting of Merseyside chemists is in favour of total closing on Sundays and Bank Holidays."

[The questionnaire issued by the Liverpool Pharmaceutical Committee, dated November 21, sets forth the present opening hours for N.H.I. dispensing and the holidays to be allowed to assistants who work for specified periods on Sundays. It concludes by asking for personal views on the restriction imposed by the new Act and suggestions as to means by which difficulties may be overcome.]

Too Many Tooth-Pastes .- "In our chemists' department we counted up the number of tooth-pastes we sell and we found they were something over 150. Probably ten would be enough."—Mr. Gordon Selfridge at the recent annual dinner of the Liverpool branch of the Incorporated Sales Managers' Association.

# Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

#### Council Meeting

What was described by Mr. Philip F. Rowsell as a very important matter was the subject of a special reference by him at the December meeting of the Council, held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.I, on December 2, Mr. T. Marns (president) in the chair. Mr. Rowsell drew attention to an item in the report of the Education Committee referring to the award of the Ph.C. diploma to graduates in pharmacy of approved universities, and to correspondence which has been published on the subject. The Committee could not see its way to recommend the Council to make any alteration at the present stage. It was decided to refer the correspondence to the Examination Regulations Committee. Mr. Rowsell emphasised that no alteration could be made in the Regulations at the present time. What would happen in the future he could not say.

#### Tuesday's Proceedings

Among the business transacted by the Council at the meeting on December 1 were the following items:—

A letter was received from the secretary of the Decimal Association inquiring whether the Society would support steps towards the abolition of the apothecaries' system of weights and measures. The secretary was instructed to explain to the Association the practical difficulties in the way of the abolition of that system.

The secretary reported upon correspondence with the British Medical Association on the supply of barbiturates to their patients by medical practitioners, and stated that he was settling with the Association the terms of a notice to appear in "The British Medical Journal."

#### DEATHS

The President, before proceeding to the ordinary business on December 2, made appropriate reference to the deaths of Sir Edwin Deller, principal of the University of London, Mr. Oliver Marsh, Wallasey, and Mr. Pyman, Westcliff. The two latter, he said, had both held office in pharmacy. Sir Edwin Deller had shown himself on many occasions to be a good friend of pharmacy, and particularly in connexion with the Schools which were concerned in preparing students for the B.Pharm. degree. Members of the Council would have seen in the papers the tragic circumstances of Sir Edwin Deller's death, and he was sure they would wish for a letter of sympathy to be sent to his relatives. Members of the Council expressed their approval of the president's observations.

#### REGISTRATION ITEMS

Three persons were elected as student-associates, and it was reported that six applications had been received for restoration to the Registers of Chemists and Druggists and of Pharmaceutical Chemists. The secretary intimated that twelve persons had been restored to the Registers since the last meeting. The Registrar stated that fifty-four apprentices or students had been registered during the month.

#### INVIGILATORS APPOINTED

Sixteen persons were appointed invigilators and fourteen were appointed deputy invigilators of written examinations for the ensuing year.

#### BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE

The Benevolent Fund Committee reported that they had considered fifteen applications, and made grants ranging from

£3 to £34 8s.

The Committee had considered the practicability of recommending the payment of a Christmas bonus to annuitants, in accordance with the custom of the past few years, and now recommended that a Christmas gift of £5 be paid to each of

the annuitants with the exception of those elected on December 2.

The Committee considered the advisability of commemorating the coronation of the King by making a grant to the orphans from the Orphan Fund. In connexion with the Silver Jubilee of King George V, a grant of £5 5s. each for the purchase of National Savings Certificates was made for thirteen orphans of pharmacists known to be in an orphanage, whether supported by the Society's Funds or not. There are sixteen orphans now, and the cost would be £84. The Committee recommended that a grant of £84 be made from the Orphan Fund for the purpose intimated.

Several special contributions were acknowledged, including one of £74 from the Liverpool Chemists' Association, and a legacy of £846 from the estate of the late Mr. William Rivett Harvey.

MR. Antcliffe drew attention to the donation from Liverpool, and mentioned that since the smoking concerts were begun in that city no less than £1,614 had been contributed to the Benevolent Fund.

#### WAR AUXILIARY BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE

The report of this committee showed that one grant of £8 had been made during the month.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The financial statement showed that receipts since the last meeting, including a balance of £35 4s. Id., amounted to £7,730 IIs. 9d., comprising the following items:—Retention fees, £40 19s.; premises fees, £258 6s.; subscriptions, £1 Is.; College—School of Pharmacy, £141 18s. 5d.; College—Pharmacological Laboratories, £603 18s.; registration fees, £138 12s.; restoration fees and certificates of qualification, £10 15s.; examination fees, £315; penalties and expenses, £37 5s. 6d.; rentals, £206 5s.; "Pharmaceutical Journal," £1,356 Is. 2d.; Pharmaceutical Press, £603 8s.; F.S.S.U. contributions, £18 16s. 2d.; F.S.S.U.—transfers from S.S.S.S., £235 16s. 2d.; S.S.S.S. refunds, £15 12s. Id.; interest on investments, £95 18s. 2d.; refund of deposit with G.P.O., £500; transferred from deposit account, £3,100; sundries, £15 16s. Payments ordered at the last meeting amounted to £7,710 os. 8d., leaving a balance of £20 IIs. Id. The other balances were:—Benevolent Fund (current account), £31 3s. 4d.; Benevolent Fund (donation account), £37 9s. 2d.; War Auxiliary Benevolent Fund, £542 3s. 4d.; Hills Orphan Fund, £23 3s. IId.; Orphan Fund, £16 18s. 3d. Accounts amounting to £9,338 13s. 4d. were passed for payment, and the action of the secretary in making payments amounting to £1,631 18s. 3d. was approved.

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee reported that a letter from the secretary of the Birmingham and District Branch naming Frederick Thomas Grice for the Thomas Chase prize was considered. They recommended that the prize for 1936 be awarded to him.

#### LAW COMMITTEE

The report of this Committee showed that in England and Wales 1,184 chemists' shops, 67 listed sellers and 64 drug store proprietors, grocers and similar traders had been visited by the Society's inspectors during the past month. It also showed that 166 drug stores and other premises had been visited by the Society's agents during the past month.

#### Election of Annuitants

A meeting for the election of six annuitants of the Society was held at the Society's headquarters on December 2, the president in the chair. It was unanimously resolved that the following persons be elected: Anthony, T.; Howe, Fanny M.; Keall, A. A.; Stanley, Annie; Wood, F. P.; Wright, Mary.

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# Trade Notes

NOSEPTYL NASAL JELLY.—Illustrated on this page is the display container issued by Bengué & Co., Ltd., 24 Fitzroy
Street, London, W.1, to promote the sales of Noseptyl nasal



jelly. This display carton contains six tubes, each of which is fitted with a new elongated nozzle for easy application in cases of colds, catarrh and hay Messrs. Bengué also direct our attention to Nestosyl ointment which is prepared by The Nestosyl Co., Ltd., 79-81 Borough High Street, London, S.E.I, Messrs. Bengué being distributing agents. This ointment is introduced for the relief of lesions of the skin or super-ficial mucous membrane. Other Nestosyl preparations include an

oily solution and suppositories.

EMERSON'S BROMO-SELTZER.—Elsewhere in this issue an announcement is made in regard to Emerson's Bromo-Seltzer which after December 31 will be packed in cartons instead of in wrappers and the formula altered so as not to be affected by the restrictions of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act. Chemists are invited to return unsold stock at December 31 either direct to W. A. Miller, Ltd., 183 Westbourne Grove, London, W.11, or through the usual wholesaler.

MENTHO-LYPTUS TABLETS.—Hall Bros. (Whitefield), Ltd., Whitefield, near Manchester, send us specimen containers of



their Mentho-Lyptus tablets for throat, chest and lungs. will be seen from the illustration, they are packed in tins of two sizes and in bulk packages for selling across the counter.

PENETROL.—Illustrated herewith is a new packing of Penetrol drops introduced by W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds.



In addition, formula has changed, the new product having an oily base. This preparation is issued in a bottle fitted with a convenient dropper for direct application of the inhalant.

NOVELTY SHADES FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATION. — The General Electric Co., Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, have intro-duced a range of novelty shades for use with Osram Christmas

tree and decoration lamps. The shades, which are bell-shaped and moulded from bakelite in various colours, are packed in boxes of twelve. Descriptive literature is available.

New AIR-RAID CASES.—Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, London, E.C.1, announce the issue of two Tabloid first-aid equipments specially prepared for air-raid precautions. No. 732 (left) is a black japanned metal case containing sodium chloride for making a normal saline solution to counteract the effects of tear gases; tannic acid jelly to be



used after emergency treatment of the gas-affected parts; Tolamine for protecting clothing against mustard-gas, etc. No. 733 (right) is a black japanned metal case containing Paroleine liquid paraffin for instilling into the eyes; dusting powder to relieve irritation after contamination with various blister gases; a set of telescopic splints, etc., in addition to the items mentioned above.

OPENING A PHARMACY.—Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., offer to the chemist who is considering the opening of a new pharmacy their initial stock order list. A copy may be obtained either from Hanover Street, Liverpool, or Bartholomew Close, London, E.C.I.

# Trade-Mark Applications

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are grouped. A list of classes and particulars as to registration are given in "The Chemist and Druggist Diary and Year-Book," 1936, p. 322.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," October 28, 1936.)

Figure of dancer; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Schiaparelli, S.A., 21 Place Vendome, Paris.

"Vanderized"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By St. Andrew Mills, Ltd., Walthamstow, London, E.17. 571,688. (Associated.)

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," November 4, 1936)

"Solunaptl"; for all goods (1). By J. W. Leitch & Co., Ltd., 78 New Street, Milnsbridge. 569,627.

"EXLUAN"; for photographic chemicals, etc. (1). By Haardt & Co., A.-G., Reichsstrasse 37-39, Dusseldorf, Germany. 571,785.

"NITRO-CHALK"; for artificial soil fertilisers (2). By I.C.I. (Fertilizer & Synthetic Products, Ltd.), Imperial Chemical House, Millbank, London, S.W.I. 559,288.

"THANATIN" (letters "T" and "N" disclaimed); for germicides, deodorants (not toilet) and disinfectants (2). By South Eastern Factors, Ltd., 13 Stone Road, Broadstairs, Kent. 563,502.

Factors, Ltd., 13 Stone Road, Broadstars, Kent. 503,502.

"Neumandin"; for veterinary chemicals, etc. (2), for medicinal chemicals (3). By Boots, Ltd., Station Street, Nottingham. 565.007/078. (Associated.)

"Vetarsamide"; for veterinary chemicals containing amides (2).

"Sanitrol"; for liquid disinfectants (2). "Acigen"; for mandelic acid preparations for urinary infections (3). By May & Baker, Ltd., St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C.4. 570,571. (Associated.) 570,932/568,931.

"Property": for pine disinfectants and soaps (2). By Middleton

PINETIC"; for pine disinfectants and soaps (2). By Middleton Bros., Ltd., St. George Street, London, E.I. 571,459.

ABAVIT"; for all goods (2). "RAPHANIT"; for weed killers (2). Silhouette of hands; for all goods (2). By Schering, Ltd., High Holborn, London, W.C.I. 571,560/1/2.

DISFECTOL"; for disinfectants (2). By Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., Dansom Lane, Hull. 571,926. (Associated.)

GOOD MORNING! SIR"; for all goods (3), excluding soap. By International Laboratories, Ltd., Smedley Street, London, S.W.8. 570,533.

# C. & D." Retail Price List

CHANGES in prices at the end of the year are usually few; for the month of November they have had no appreciable effect upon the index figure, which remains at 147.9, as in October, against 146.9 in November 1935. Nor was there any change in the index figure for surgical dressings, which remains stationary at the level of 136.7, which it reached in July.

November 1935 showed an index of 136.2. The important changes in dispensing and selling prices for December are set

Cost		D 161 . 1	Selling Price				
	per	Drugs and Chemicals	16 oz. s. d.	4 oz. s. d.	1 oz. s. d.	1 dr. s. d.	
102 108	oz.	Crocus Valent	_	_	_	2 2	
-24	oz.	Hyd. oxycyanidum S.1 (4)		_	3 6	0 6	
17	dr.	Lactucarium	-			2 6	
60	lb.	Ol. cadinum	-	2 3	0 8	0 2	
264	lb.	Tr. aurantii	-	9 6	2 10	0 5	

# **Marriages**

Bryan—Walford.—At Jerusalem Calvinistic Methodist Church, Penmaenmawr, on November 23, David Allen Bryan, M.P.S., chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Union, "The Gables," Penmaenmawr, to Daisy Walford.

HURST—GLOVER.—At Hindley Parish Church, Lancs, on November 25, John Hubert Hurst, M.P.S., Codnor, Derbyshire, to Winifred M. Glover.

## **Deaths**

HARRINGTON.—At his residence, Lee View, Cork, on November 26, Mr. William Barry Harrington, chemist and druggist.



MR. W. B. HARRINGTON

The late Mr. Harrington was one of four remaining men in Ireland holding the qualifica-tion of chemists and druggists under the Pharmacy Act of 1875. One of the three now remaining is Sir Stanley Harrington, Ariglin, Cobh, Mr. W. B. Harrington's brother. The late Harrington was connected with many Cork establishments and industries. He was chairman of the Cork Chemical & Drug Co., and of the Cork Gas Consumers' Co., and was on the board of directors of several other concerns, including Harring-ton, Goodlass & Wall, and E. Ryan & Co. He was also a Fellow of the Chemical Society.

Cash.—At Albyn House, Hereford, on November 30, Mr. John Theodore Cash, LL.D., F.R.S., Emeritus Regius Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Aberdeen, aged eighty-two. Professor Cash was associated with the research of Sir Wyndham Dunstan on the alkaloids of aconite and with the production of the British Pharmacopæia, 1914. He was elected an honorary member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 1893.

Gleeson.—At Bruff, co. Limerick, recently, Mr. Patrick Gleeson, L.P.S.I. Mr. Gleeson, who passed the Licence examination in 1914, died suddenly while exercising his horse.

Murison.—At Victoria Infirmary Annexe, Glasgow, on December r, Edith Margaret Murison, only daughter of the late George F. King, late assistant editor, "Western Daily Express," Bristol, beloved wife of Mr. Sydney J. F. Murison, press," Bristol, beloved whe of Jul. M.P.S., 170 Kings Park Road, Glasgow, S.4.

Smith.—On December 1, following a road accident, Mr. E. Y. Smith, for eighteen years London representative of The Regent Chemists, Ltd., 70 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London. S.W.1.

Smith.—At Woodford, on November 26, after a brief illness, Mr. Benjamin Alfred Smith, founder and senior director of Mr. Benjamin Alfred Smith, founder and senior director of B. A. Smith & Co., Ltd., chemical merchants, 107 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.4, aged seventy-three. After a varied trade experience in the City, Mr. Smith opened a business in Crutched Friars in 1895 under the style of B. A. Smith & Co., with the late Mr. Henry Boyce as manager. Mr. Boyce died seventeen years ago. Shortly afterwards Mr. Smith was joined by his son, Mr. Robert S. Smith, and a few years later by his other son, Mr. Arthur P. Smith. The business was incorporated in 1024 with the father and two sons as directors. incorporated in 1934 with the father and two sons as directors.

## Personalities

Mr. Hugo Wolff, M.P.S., who is making good progress after his illness, hopes to resume his activities as sales director of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., at an early date. Mr. Charles J. JEPHCOTT, M.P.S., who has been closely associated with the work of Mr. Wolff in the sales department for the past sixteen years, has been appointed sales manager of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.

# **Business Changes**

Miss E. M. Skinner, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. J. N. Bray, late of The Pharmacy, Box, Wilts. [Corrected note.]

Mr. H. Astle, chemist and druggist, Parliament Street, Nottingham, has acquired the business of Mr. J. Boyle, chemist and druggist, King's Walk, Nottingham, who has retired

WE regret that in a paragraph in this section of our issue of November 28 the titles of Wrights (Nuneaton), Ltd., and Wright's Drug Co., Ltd., were transposed. The paragraph should read: "The title of Wright's Drug Co., Ltd., 10 and 12 Manor Court Road, Nuneaton, was altered to Wrights (Nuneaton), Ltd., earlier in the year. The business has not been sold, is not for sale, and will continue under its present ownership." [Corrected note.]

# Coming Events

Tuesday, December 8

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London,
W.C.1, at 8.30 p.m. Dr. Allan Ferugson on "Splashes and What
They Teach."

Pharmaceutical Society, Birmingham and District Branch, Imperial Hotel (Temple Room), at 8.30 p.m. Major Stuart Blackmore (Air Raid Precautions Department, The Home Office) on "Anti-Gas Pre-cautions in the Event of an Air Raid."

National Pharmaceutical Union, Leeds Branch. Meeting. Speaker, Miss Beatrice Sharples.

Wednesday, December 9

Pharmaceutical Society, Glasgow and South-Western Scottish Branch, Gordon Restaurant, 19 Gordon Street, Glasgow, at 8 p.m. Short Gordon Restaurant, papers by members.

South-West London Chemists' Association and Branch. Works visit to Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Dartford.

Thursday, December 10

Wimbledon and District Pharmacists' Association, Wimbledon Players' Rooms, 44 Hill Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19, at 8.30 p.m. Inaugural meeting of National Pharmaceutical Union Branch. Mr. G. A. Mallinson (secretary, N.F.U., on "The Chemists' Friends Scheme, N.P.U. Activities, and the Medicine-stamp Duty Position."

Friday, December 11

Pharmaceutical Society, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8 p.m. Dr. J. Nairn Hay (Air Raid Precautions Department, The Home Office) on "The Peril of Poison Gas and How to Meet It." With lantern illustrations and practical demonstrations.

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THE

# CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

VOL. CXXV.

December 5, 1936

NO. 2965

#### The Advance of Chemotherapy

At the anniversary dinner of the Royal Society held this week in London, Mr. Neville Chamberlain announced the grant by the Government of £30,000 a year for chemotherapy. This year has been noteworthy in so far as munificent benefactions towards the furtherance of research is concerned. Recognition by the Government of the importance of scientific investigation, however, is a pointer to the fact that chemotherapy is no longer to be considered a matter for the private research worker, but one for intensive pursuit in general. It is perhaps necessary only to point to this decision as an indication that the treatment of disease is in the not very distant future to be regarded as a scientific procedure and not in the way which physicians and chemists have for so long been accustomed, namely, empirically. The door to the new method of treatment was opened by Professor Ehrlich as a result of his brilliant work in the treatment of syphilis by means of organic arsenical compounds. The chemist is of course not concerned with the special method of treatment, but he has been undoubtedly affected by this new view on methods of treating disease especially so far as the early methods of chemotherapy were concerned, in that his drugs and medicines were either rendered obsolete or of less importance than before. The march of progress is inexorable, and there was bound to be the débris of such progress on the wayside. As is common knowledge, the treatment of venereal diseases is no longer within the province of the dispensing chemist. In point of fact, even the medical practitioner to-day is almost to the same degree superseded by the clinics which are held at important centres throughout the country. It is not intended that there should be any regret at the advance in the treatment of such diseases. The only point to be noted is that as a result of the newer knowledge, the chemist is left high and dry so far as the provision of medicaments for venereal diseases is concerned.

The trend of modern medicine is obviously towards a more scientific control of disease in general, and with each succeeding discovery it is obvious that the medical practitioner will rely less upon empirical treatment.

This newer aspect is one which should receive the careful consideration of those who have the destinies of the craft in their hands, and some indication of the position of pharmacy in the future of medicine should be made public in the not very distant future. Loss of turnover in the dispensing of medicines seems to be inevitable. Unfortunately, in other departments associated with pharmacy, there is the probability of still further losses to be faced. The Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, has allowed the sale of poisons in general to retailers of every description with the exception of certain poisons in little demand, the sale of these being restricted to pharmacists. The trade in "dangerous" drugs is now reduced to a minimum. The sale of restricted drugs has become subject to the issuing of prescriptions by the medical fraternity. The dispensing of National Health Insurance prescriptions is, of course, definitely assigned to the chemist, but his reward is perhaps best described as beggarly, especially as it is subject to a discounting clause which is perhaps unique in the history of trading not only in this country but throughout the world.

These points are put forward with the sole object of giving some indication as to the trend of pharmaceutical affairs in this country. As a professional body, the Pharmaceutical Society can do little to assist the trade section of the industry, and chemists must look more and more for guidance to the National Pharmaceutical Union so far as trade enterprise is concerned. If the professional side of pharmacy is to be developed, it would be interesting to have some indication of the ideas held by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. Apart from its work in examining candidates for pharmacy, in inspecting shops, in prosecutions and in its work of benevolence to pharmacists who have fallen by the wayside, there seems to be little to be expected from the parent body. The question of Chemists' Friends is very much in the air, but it is not too much to suggest that chemists would be very glad to have an assurance from headquarters that, in the general outlook on pharmacy, the Pharmaceutical Society is a true chemists' friend. At a meeting reported on another page of this issue, the secretary of the Society is stated to have said that the Pharmaceutical Society was not asleep in regard to air-raid precautions. Statements such as these appear to fill the needs of the moment, but on reflection one is perhaps justified in asking what exactly is the Society doing to advance the claims of the pharmacist not only under war conditions but also in regard to filling the peacetime needs of the populace so far as the supply of medical products and appliances is concerned.

#### The Pharmacist and Air-Raid Precautions

On p. 656 of this issue we give a summary of an address, and the discussion which followed, on "The defence of the civil population against gas," which Mr. J. Davidson Pratt (general manager of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers) gave to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society in London on Tuesday evening. Our report is brief as we dealt exhaustively with all aspects of the subject some three weeks previously (C. & D., Nov. 14, pp. 553-563and p. 551). Our review included a report of an interview with the Medical Adviser to the Air-Raid Precautions Department (Major Stuart Blackmore, O.B.E.) in which we gave the first intimation to pharmacists that they were to be asked to co-operate with local authorities throughout the country by reserving stocks of materials and articles for equipping first-aid posts and clearing hospitals. understand the schedules of products and articles in question have not yet been finally approved, but that they will be published in due course.

Dealing with an extremely complicated subject on which already about a dozen publications have been issued, Mr. Davidson Pratt, after stressing the urgent need for anti-gas precautions on a national scale, naturally had to restrict his address to outlining the general principles and methods, which experiments had proved best for countering attack from the air with the various kinds of chemical warfare gases. Beyond suggesting that pharmacists should make themselves conversant with the subject by studying the A.R.P. Handbooks, it is perhaps unfortunate he gave no indication of how the profession, while performing a valuable public service, might secure a fair measure of official recognition. During question time, which followed,

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a member of the large audience did venture to ask the not impertinent question of "whether the pharmacist was to be the acting unpaid lance-corporal in the next war, just as he had been in the last conflict?"

We are not quite sure which part of Mr. Linstead's speech, when seconding the vote of thanks to the chief speaker, the audience accepted as satisfactory. He assured the members present that the Society had made representations to the Home Office some two years ago, and that the offer of the services of pharmacists to the Government was now being considered in detail. So far, continued Mr. Linstead, the department and the Council of the Society had come to the conclusion that pharmacists could best serve the community by remaining in their pharmacies! Whether the need arises or not, arrangements are now being developed to protect the nation as far as possible against the effects of attack from the air. Pharmacists, by their training, have the basic knowledge and temperament that makes them eminently suitable to take a leading part in this national movement of preservation. The way is open for the profession to secure for itself some measure of official recognition and status. Apparently, it is to be left to individual members to carry the torch. We realise anti-gas work demands specialised knowledge and that it will be essential for pharmacists to do something more than study handbooks, as has been suggested, to become efficient. It will be necessary for them to undergo special courses of training. We understand the Society does not propose to work under the Order of St. John or the British Red Cross Society; these organisations are officially recognised, they are active throughout the country, giving lectures, training, examining and issuing certificates. Could not the Society obtain similar recognition, arrange courses of lectures in London and provincial centres for its members, act as an examining body and so raise its own service of men and women qualified in all branches of anti-chemical gas warfare?

#### Students and Unemployment Benefit

We have been in communication with the Ministry of Labour regarding the position of pharmacy students who apply for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. We have been favoured with a copy of a letter on the subject sent by the Ministry to the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. The following are the principal sentences:—

"The position under the Unemployment Insurance Act is that claimants for unemployment benefit who are taking a course of study are unable to draw unemployment benefit if their attendance at the course of study renders them unavailable for work, unless the Minister of Labour approves the course of study in each individual case. Hitherto the Minister's policy has been to refuse approval in cases where the claimant is studying for an examination which is a normal step in his professional career. . . .

"The Minister has now come to the conclusion that he can properly give approval in these cases and he will accordingly be prepared to give approval in any case where a pharmaceutical chemist's assistant is taking an appropriate course of study with a view to taking your examinations. The effect of this will be that such men will be able to draw any unemployment benefit to which they are otherwise entitled despite the fact that whilst studying they are not immediately available for employment. It will, of course, be necessary in any such cases for the man concerned to apply to his appropriate Employment Exchange before commencing his course of study. . . . "

In a covering letter the Ministry informs us that the general decision is not retrospective, and that a decision as to eligibility cannot be given in any individual case until the student has reported the full facts and has made a claim in the usual manner.

# British Association of Chemists

THE nineteenth annual general meeting of members was held in London on November 28. The following extracts are taken from the annual report for the year ended September 30, 1936: - Professor Baly, during his fourth year as president, has not spared himself in his efforts to carry through all the duties of his office. We thank him very heartily for the excellent work that he has done so well during the past four years. We are fortunate that Dr. J. Vargas Eyre, M.A., F.I.C., has accepted nomination to the office of president. The total membership is now 1,824: 107 new members have been elected during the year. A number of members have found very good opportunities outside the profession of chemistry, and this accounts for fifty-six resignations. It is with regret that we record the decease of nine members. Under the Rules three have been removed from the register. There is a net increase of thirty-nine members. The accounts and balance sheet show the expansion of our activities. A strong Legal Aid Fund is essential in case any important question of principle should be at issue in the Law Courts, and all members will appreciate the wisdom of strengthening this fund to provide for such a contingency. Grants from the Special Aid Fund have given relief in several urgent cases of need. While there have been several claims on the fund during the year, with one or two exceptions, the Council is happy to report that unemployment has been of only short duration, and the total disbursements amounted to £495.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—
President, Dr. J. Vargas Eyre, M.A., Ph.D., F.I.C.; Chairman,
Mr. C. S. Garland; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Woodcock;
Hon. Editor, Mr. H. T. F. Rhodes, M.I.E.I.; Council, Miss W.
Wright, B.Sc., Messrs. G. T. Gurr, R. P. Porter, B.Sc.,
P. Chorley, M.Sc., A. Hill, B.Sc., F. P. Evans, B.Sc., C. G.
Riley, M.A., C. A. Wylie, R. J. Mann, B.Sc., A. Churchman,
B.Sc., and R. W. Dunlop.
The append dinner was held the same evening at the Waldorf

The annual dinner was held the same evening at the Waldorf Hotel, W.C. Professor E. C. C. Baly, C.B.E., F.R.S., presided. Mr. S. Reginald Price proposed "The President and

the President-elect," and, referring to Professor E. C. C. Baly, who would be retiring from the office of president after four years in that position, spoke of the valuable services which

Professor Baly had rendered to the Association.
Professor E. C. C. Baly, F.R.S., responding, expressed his appreciation of what had been said about him, and said that his four years of office as president had been a most extraordinarily interesting experience, but he asked for no thanks for what he had been able to do. He had always believed the Association had a great future, and his period of office had confirmed that view. During the past few years there had been some very interesting developments, and one of the most important was the so-called Poisons Bill. The Association felt it was absolutely essential that it should be included in the Schedule as one of the qualifying bodies. He was bound to admit that in regard to that matter the Association was not in nearly so strong a position as many of them might have his first year of office to state that the Association did not claim to be a qualifying body. The business of the Association was to look after the welfare and conditions of its members. Qualification, of course, was a matter that had to be borne in mind in the sense that a man must be qualified before he could become a member of the Association, but that was a very different thing from claiming to be a qualifying body in the sense that the Institute of Chemistry was. Many of them felt, and he personally felt very strongly indeed, that when the Poisons Bill was introduced the Institute of Chemistry lost the greatest opportunity ever given to any body in this country. (Hear, hear.) Professor E. C. C. Baly then said he wanted to make a presentation to one who had done more than anybody else for the Association, Mr. Reginald Price. had been felt by the members who had served on the Council that some expression of appreciation should be made of the great services Mr. Price had rendered ever since the Association was formed, and these members had each subscribed in order to present to him a bureau and an address of thanks, which they all had signed.

# Medicine Stamp Duties Select Committee

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider and report on medicine-stamp duties met for the third time on December 1, Sir John Ganzoni in the chair. The first witness called was Mr. H. N. Linstead, secretary and registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society, who submitted a statement, of which the following are the principal passages: --

#### Pharmaceutical Society's Evidence

I. THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—The principal functions of the 1. The Pharmaceutical Society.—The principal functions of the Pharmaceutical Society under its Charter and the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, 1852-1933, are, in brief, the supervision of the education, examination and registration of pharmacists; the registration and inspection of premises in which a chemist's business is carried on; the disciplinary control of those carrying on this business; and the enforcement of those sections of the Pharmacy and Prize and Activities of the Pharmacy and Prize and Priz Poisons Acts which relate to the practice of pharmacy.

2. The Special Position of the Chemist.—The Committee is invited to give particular consideration to the special position of the chemist in the light of the services which he renders to the community in connexion with the supply of medicines. . . .

As an individual the chemist is an essential element in the an individual the chemist is an essential element in the public health service, yet both as an individual and as a class his independent existence is increasingly threatened by the economic movements which in pharmacy as elsewhere are leading to mass production and the substitution of the machine for the craftsman. The State and the community have under modern conditions an increasing responsibility to assure the pharmacist an adequate return for the cost of obtaining his qualification and a remuneration in keeping with the services he renders. . . .

THE NEED FOR AN INQUIRY INTO PROPRIETARY MEDICINES UPON Broad Lines.-In most countries there is legislation designed to safeguard the public from worthless medicines or medicines making exaggerated claims. In this country, the State has interested itself in proprietary medicines mainly in order to secure revenue from

obtained its second reading in the House of Lords. . . . The Bill was introduced by Mr. C. A. V. Duckworth on February 7, 1936, and a motion for the second reading was taken on March 27, when the House was "counted out." . . .

6. There have been sufficient changes since the Select Committee reported in 1914 and since the compromise of the "agreed Bill" in 1920 to render further inquiry essential if there is to be legisla-

7. These changes have remedied certain of the mischiefs to which the report of the Select Committee drew attention and render it and the "agreed Bill" no longer safe guides, but the absence of effective control over extravagant advertising remains. . . Specimens will be submitted to the Committee showing that advertisements of medicines or appliances purporting to cure consumption, deafness, diabetes, fits, epilepsy and rupture are still widely distributed.

8. The trade in proprietary medicines is to-day a great industry employing thousands of workpeople and it has been for many years uncertain whether it is likely to be the subject of legislation. The Pharmaceutical Society cannot see that results of permanent value can follow an inquiry limited solely to the taxation aspect of the question, and it would urge that the Committee so report.

9. Medicines as Suitable Objects of Taxation.—The Acts imposing the duties now paid date back to 1802, 1804 and 1812. The

posing the duties now paid date back to 1802, 1804 and 1812. The duties were, however, doubled in the Finance (No. 2) Act, 1915, and continued annually by specific provisions in subsequent Finance Acts until the Finance Act, 1927, by section 2, made the new rates permanent "until Parliament otherwise determines."

It may be argued that medicines are essentially not suitable 

Acrs.—The provisions of the Medicine Stamp Acts have long since ceased to correspond with the actual state of the proprietary medicine trade and have been accommodated to changing conditions only by administrative rulings. The structure created by the obscure wording of the Acts, by a long series of judicial interpretations and by the administrative expedients which changing conditions have rendered inevitable, can stand no further strain, and consolidation and

amendment are now essential if the Acts are to continue to furnish any substantial revenue. .

12. Some of the inconsistencies and anomalies are described in 12. Some of the inconsistencies and anomalies are described in paragraph 16 of the report of the Select Committee on Patent Medicines . . . and in greater detail in the evidence before that Committee by Sir Nathaniel Highmore, Solicitor to the Board of Customs and Excise, and Mr. C. H. Kirby. . . . 13. The confused state of the law has enabled many medicines to escape duty and there has been a marked shrinkage of revenue from the peak wear).

1921 (the peak year). .

MEDICINES SUITABLE FOR TAXATION.—(a) Proprietary Surgical Appliances.—Intrinsically there is no reason why medicines should be taxed and appliances not. Such articles as iodine lockets, many appliances for the relief of rupture and deafness, and rings and belts for the treatment of rheumatism are as suitable for taxation as proprietary medicines. . . Examples will be submitted to the Committee indicating the close resemblance between proprietary medicines and some proprietary surgical appliances. Should the duty be extended to appliances, those supplied upon the order of a medical practitioner should be exempt and it may be that

being compounded into medicines, but in practice it releases from duty medicines in every way resembling those advertised and recom-mended medicines upon which duty is paid, save that they consist of one ingredient only. Such medicines should not form a special

class for taxation purposes.
(d) "Medicated Herbs" were included in the general charge of duty in the Schedule in the Act of 1812, but the words have been interpreted as charging with duty only those herbs which have undergone some process of medication other than mere drying. . . . (e) Smoking Mixtures which are to be burnt and the fumes inhaled (e) Smoking Mixtures which are to be burnt and the fulnes inflated have hitherto escaped duty on the ground that the mixtures themselves are applied neither internally nor externally. There is no justification for their exemption from taxation on this ground.

(f) Mineral Waters and Mineral Water Salts.—... It will be desirable

to exempt table waters, and there may be difficulty in drawing the line between such waters and medicines. This is a matter upon which an advisory Committee constituted as proposed later in this memorandum would be able to give advice.

(g) "Known, Admitted and Approved" Remedies.—... This exemp-

tion was presumably to permit the sale unstamped of those medicines supplied professionally by the chemist and doctor and of the everyday remedies purchased by the public for the treatment of minor ailments. There is no reason to suppose that the considerations which led to the incorporation of this principle in the legislation do ont apply to-day. . . . The exemptions which have followed this decision [in Farmer v. Glyn-Jones] have been mainly responsible for the marked diminution in receipts from duty, although it is by no means certain that some of the medicines that are no longer stamped are in law entitled to the exemption they are now peranomalies that have resulted from the operation of this exemption, (h) Medicines Manufactured under Letters Patent.—" Patent Medicines" in the sense in which the term was well. Stamp Acts have ceased to exist, although there are still medicines once patented which remain liable to duty for that reason. Patents and Designs Act, 1919, brought to an end the patenting of compounded medicines. . . . There is no reason under modern conditions why patented medicines should be treated as a special class for taxation purposes.

(i) Copies of Nationally Advertised Medicines.-Nationally advertised medicines are copied and the copies sold on the reputation of the original medicine. These medicines should be liable to duty under the same conditions as the medicines of which they are

(j) Dispensed Medicines.-Medicines which have been "dispensed" by chemists and medical practitioners have at no time been regarded as within the scope of the duty, and special concessions have been made by the Commissioners whereby the manufacturer is released from his obligation to stamp the containers of dutiable medicines supplied for dispensing. The principle of this concession should be continued. . . . (k) Homeopathic Medicines.—These are in no different position from

other medicines and should be treated in the same way.

(I) Toilet Articles.—The boundary between medicines and toilet articles is difficult to draw. Toilet articles for which medical properties are claimed by their manufacturers should be regarded as medicines for stamp duty purposes. There should be an official list of conditions not regarded as allments to facilitate the drawing of of conditions not regarded as ailments to facilitate the drawing of

the boundary....

(m) Confectionery.—Ginger and peppermint lozenges are specifically exempted from taxation provided no claim is made that they possess medicinal properties, and it will be necessary to continue a

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differentiation between lozenges that are confectionery and lozenges that are medicine.

(u) Foods.—Some of the difficulties in differentiating between a medicine and a food will be found in the second report of the Advisory Committee on the Definition of Drugs for the Purposes of Medical Benefit presented to the Minister of Health on December 20, 1929. . . . (0) Medicines of Known Composition not Advertised to the Public

but Sold under a Trade Mark.—There are certain series of medicines not advertised to the public and of which the composition is published. They are usually sold by chemists and are proprietary in the sense that their name is associated with a trade mark or trade name. As a class they represent medicines that should be exempt from duty.

THE BASIS OF TAXATION.—According to the then Chancellor of the Exchequer when submitting the proposal to the House of Commons, the intention of the first Medicine Stamp Act was to tax

quack medicines.

16. In considering the basis of taxation, it is useful to adopt a classification based upon the original charge of duty and to consider medicines as falling in one of three groups:—(a) Secret medicines; (b) non-secret proprietary medicines; (c) non-proprietary or "known, admitted and approved" medicines.

17. Secret Medicines.—No encouragement should be given to the sale of medicines the composition of which is secret. The Society

suggests that all secret medicines should be dutiable and that there

others is one recognised to-day. To use it as a basis of taxation it is necessary to distinguish between what are known as "ethical" proprietary medicines and other proprietary medicines. The characteristics of "ethical" medicines are broadly: (a) They are supplied to the public through chemists; (b) they are generally supplied (c) this is the proprietary medicines. The characplied to the public through chemists; (b) they are generally supplied on medical prescription; (c) they are advertised to the professions only; (d) such claims as are made are, in general, in moderate terms. The characteristics of "non-ethical" medicines are:—
(a) They are retailed through as many channels as are available; (b) they are usually sold without prescription; (c) they are advertised to the public; (d) claims to therapeutic efficacy, frequently exaggerated, are made in these advertisements.

19. Non-Proprietary Medicines.—In the original Medicine Stamp Act, "known, admitted and approved" medicines when sold by chemists and druggists were exempted from duty and the Society

by chemists and druggists were exempted from duty and the Society

submits that this exemption should be continued....

20. The Charge of Duty.—The Society suggests the following outline for the basis of the charge of duty:—(a) Secret Medicines.— All medicines the composition of which is not disclosed should be

liable to duty.

(b) Proprietary Medicines.—The test of whether a medicine is proprietary or non-proprietary should be whether or not the method of manufacture or the name under which it is sold is private property There is difficulty in the way of using advertising to the public as the dividing line, particularly when such matters as radio advertising and advertising in foreign magazines circulating in this country are considered. For these reasons the Society suggests that the dividing line should be whether or not the medicine is sold to the public exclusively through chemists. . . This proposal would further render it unnecessary to continue the present exemption in favour of dispensed medicines, since they would follow the general

(c) Non-Proprietary Medicines.—Non-proprietary medicines are the "known, admitted and approved" medicines of the original exemption and it is suggested that they should be (i) not liable to duty in any circumstances if sold with no claims for the prevention, cure or relief of human ailments; and (ii) although held out for the prevention, cure or relief, not liable to duty when sold by

chemists.

21. EXEMPTIONS: CREATION OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOM-MENDED.—The Society regards it as important that the medicines to be taxed shall be clearly defined and that the definition shall be statutory and not capable of amendment by departmental rule. A wide definition of medicines will, however, require provision for exemptions and it will probably be convenient that the exemptions should be dealt with by simpler machinery than that of a Finance Bill. The Society therefore suggests that a Schedule of Exemptions should be created and that admission of articles or classes of articles to the Schedule should be subject in the first instance to the recommendation of an Advisory Committee to the Commissioners, upon which departments such as the Ministry of Health and the Government Laboratory should be represented, together with re-presentatives from bodies such as the Pharmaceutical Society and the British Medical Association.

22. This advisory Committee would be concerned with the definition of the respective boundaries between medicines and table waters, toilet articles, confectionery and foods and to advise generally upon the inclusion of articles in the Schedule of Exemp-

Claims to Efficacy.—The basis of taxation recommended by the Society has the disability that it imposes no liability on quackery as represented by exaggerated claims to therapeutic efficiency made on behalf of proprietary medicines. These by themselves will involve no liability to duty. To attempt a differentiation on the basis of whether or not statements in advertisements amount to claims for the efficacy or physiological action of a medicine on the body would lead to difficulties similar to those which have accumulated under the present legislation. . . . The impracticability of employing a the present legislation. . . . The impracticability of employing a stamp duty to discourage extravagant claims concerning medicines supports the Society's contention that a full inquiry into the public health aspect of proprietary medicines is necessary.
24. It may be added that should the Committee decide that

claims to the prevention, cure or relief of ailments should be a factor in determining the liability of medicines to duty, it is desirable that references to an organ of the body and to physiological action should be included equally with specific claims for prevention, cure

or relief.

25. Notice of Change of Incidence of Duty.—If as the outcome of the recommendations of the Committee the law is so altered as to render liable to duty medicines not now liable, reasonable time should be allowed.

26. ADVERTISING SEPARATELY FROM THE MEDICINE.—The attention of the Committee is drawn to the fact that the charge of duty should be so framed that a medicine should be liable to duty if words importing liability are used not on labels or literature distributed with the medicine but only on literature distributed separately. .

THE ANNUAL LICENCE. . . . For the reasons given in paragraph 2 the Society urges that special recognition may be given to the services and responsibilities of the chemist and that no licence fee should be required for the sale of proprietary medicines from premises registered under Section 12 of the Pharmacy and Poisons

Act, 1933. . . .

THE CHAIRMAN announced that Admiral Beamish would not sit on the Committee again, as he had recently undergone an operation, and his place would be taken by Mr. Bossom. understood that before being questioned, Mr. Linstead wished

to say something to the Committee.

Mr. LINSTEAD said that he would like very briefly to go through the memorandum and outline one or two points. Society wished to put forward its evidence as the views of the majority of its members who were chemists and druggists in retail practice, who had a specialised knowledge of pharmacy in retail shops. In their second paragraph they desired to emphasise the special position of the chemist, who had to obtain State qualifications at a good deal of trouble and expense to himself, and the State and the community made a great deal of use of the chemist. He also supplied a great deal of the proprietary medicines and gave a good deal of advice to the public, and in these respects it was claimed that he was entitled to some special consideration in the matter of taxation. The fourth and fifth paragraphs set out a great deal of history, because they wished to emphasise that certain medicines which were condemned by the Select Committee on Patent Medicines in 1914 might be given a new lease of life by the recommendations of the present Committee. They felt that this Committee should have its attention directed to it, as the recommenda-tions of the previous Committee still existed. Paragraph 7 dealt with a number of advertisements which illustrated articles still being sold for the cure of cancer, consumption, deafness, diabetes, etc., which were condemned in 1914, and that was summed up in paragraph 8, by saying that in their view the broad issue had to be tackled, and they felt that an inquiry dealing only with the taxation aspect must be of limited value so long as the bigger problem was not faced. With regard to medicines as a suitable object for taxation, they would suggest that certain things were the least articles that should be taxed, but they could not avoid the fact that the Treasury required the money, and the principle of the taxation of medicines was recognised by Parliament as recently as 1927, when the duties were made permanent. They felt that non-ethical proprietary medicines were a class which were probably least open to criticism so far as taxation was concerned, and it was something that could be justified. In paragraph 14 they had tried to help the Committee by setting out the number of classes of medicines and other articles, and making certain comments upon them. They drew attention to proprietary surgical appliances, and he would put in advertisements of an iodine locket and a rheumatism ring, both of which were regarded as a class which was almost indistinguishable from proprietary medicines. They were not medicines but appliances, and therefore escaped duty. In 14 (d) they referred to medicated herbs, and they would put in a catalogue issued by a firm offering a very large number of herbs, which were advertised and sold as proprietary medicines, but escaped duty because they were not regarded as medicated, and also he had an actual container for herbs which were claimed to have cured arthritis, but which were not liable for duty. The suggestions

and recommendations of the Society were contained in paragraphs 16 to 20, and they suggested that medicines should be classed as secret, proprietary, and non-proprietary. medicines would be those in which the composition was not disclosed, and should be taxed in all circumstances. With regard to proprietary medicines, they offered a definition which was in paragraph 20, and they said that there should be no differentiation between the medicine stamped and the medicine unstamped, as it was the same medicine. With regard to proprietary medicines, they thought the definition should be done away with, and they suggested the separation of ethical from non-ethical medicines. They suggested that the non-ethical medicines should be stamped and the ethical medicines should be exempt. With regard to non-proprietary medicines they suggested, from reasons that had been outlined, there were good grounds for retaining the existing definition, whereby chemists were permitted to sell the known, admitted and approved medicines unstamped. They used the definition of ethical and non-ethical for proprietary medicines only.

#### Questions to the Secretary

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Your second paragraph emphasises the special position of the chemist and suggests his legitimate duties are being encroached upon by other traders. Would you be willing to see the chemist given a certain monopoly in his business on condition that he ceases to sell books, toys, games, stationery and the like, because it might be said that he is encroaching on the privileges of others? The chemist is not a skilled bookseller, and does not know the A.B.C. and the finer points of the stationery trade.

MR. LINSTEAD: We are concerned at the moment with medicines and drugs, and in so far as they are concerned, he has to have special qualifications. If we are going to go into stationery we should be going outside our inquiry.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: You suggest that a chemist should

have a monopoly as regards medicines and drugs?

MR. LINSTEAD: We only say that in so far as there should be a tax on certain medicines we do not think the chemist should be called upon to pay it.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: So the location of the sales department is a test as to whether it is dutiable or not payable.

MR. LINSTEAD: The qualification of the person by whom the sale is made should be the test.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: So a departmental store, so long as it keeps a qualified chemist to sell even the non-ethical medicines, should be exempt from all taxation?

MR. LINSTEAD: So far as non-ethical proprietary medicines

are concerned we are suggesting they should be taxed.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: If Woolworths wish to sell nonethical medicines in Oxford Street, all they need do is to have one qualified chemist in charge of a row of shelves?

MR. LINSTEAD: That is what the Pharmacy Acts require. SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Your definition between ethical and

non-ethical is not based on anything of the British Medical Association secret remedies?

MR. LINSTEAD: No, although all the secret remedies come under the definition of non-ethical.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: So that a non-ethical medicine may at the same time be classified as a known, admitted and approved remedy?

Mr. Linstead: I think not.
Sir Arnold Wilson: With regard to paragraph 5, you deal with the 1920 Bill. Can you tell me whether your Society supported that Bill when it was introduced by the Government into the House of Lords?

MR. LINSTEAD: I frankly do not know, as it was before

my time.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: The point is one of considerable importance, because you refer to the Bill, and I rather expected to hear from you if your Society were definitely in favour of it, or not opposed to it. I cannot find any reference to it having had your support.

MR. LINSTEAD: So far as the Bill of 1935 was concerned, the Pharmaceutical Society had a great deal to do with that.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: It bore little relation to the Bill of 1920. It went further than the agreed Bill of 1920.

Mr. LINSTEAD: I should hesitate to say that.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: I have compared them, and I see very little relationship between the two. The 1920 Bill dealt with proprietary medicines, and the 1935 with practitioners, authorised and unauthorised. The main principle of the Bill was directed towards the union aspect.

MR. LINSTEAD: I think that criticism was based on a misunderstanding. I have had no time to look up the records, and I should not like to say what our attitude was towards the Bill.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON next read from a report of proceedings in the House of Lords on July 29, 1920, in which an instance was put of a proprietor of a patent medicine not registering the true process at all, and asking how the investigation was to be carried out to determine whether the ingredients were those specified. The report went on to say that anyone who had read "the report of the British Pharmaceutical Society" would see it was extremely difficult to ascertain whether the right proportions of drugs were used. Sir Arnold asked whether the Society had now found this practicable by the light of the Bill of 1935.

Mr. Linstead replied that he had little doubt there had been a mistake, and that the British Medical Association was being referred to, not the Pharmaceutical Society. They were, in his opinion, referring to the British Medical Association "Secret Remedies," and the difficulties of finding the precise amount and the difficulties of finding the precise amount of drugs in particular medicines.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: I want now to refer to paragraph 6, in which you refer to the Advisory Committee on Advertisements. Is it not a fact that it has not been effective, as it has no real powers, and that the abuses which it was designed to remedy have not been effectively checked?

MR. LINSTEAD: My opinion is that the reputable newspapers will always accept the recommendations of that Committee, and the least reputable newspapers will accept all adver-

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Then you say it has been checked but

not stopped?

MR. LINSTEAD: That is so.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: These changes have rendered the agreed Bill no longer a safe guide to the absence of proper control. You more or less bear out the suggestion that there is no real check on the advertising?

MR. LINSTEAD: Outside newspapers, no.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: I have noticed that the Postmaster-General is a persistent advertiser, and has specialised in accepting advertisements in postage-stamp books for remedies against which the British Medical Association have repeatedly protested. If these things are done by the Postmaster-General, who is to judge what is a reputable newspaper or not?

MR. LINSTEAD: I am not going any further than to say

there is ground for wider inquiry.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: In paragraph 11 you say something with which I think we are all agreed, and your presence here is directed towards the modification which you desire, but I suggest to you that your attempt to define these medicines into ethical and non-ethical would draw us into the ambit of the same criticisms of the law by the judges, as at present.

MR. LINSTEAD: Our own view is that the recommendations

are reasonably practical of administration.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Have you taken legal advice or counsel's opinion on the possibility of drafting, in a manner likely to be satisfactory to a Court, a definition which you would like to draw?

Mr. Linstead: We have not done so at the present stage. SIR ARNOLD WILSON: In paragraph 18 (c) you refer to medicines advertised to the professions only. To which professions do you refer?

MR. LINSTEAD: We would include medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and probably others which come in the same class.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Chemists?

MR. LINSTEAD: Certainly.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Anyone who is engaged in the sale, or whose duty it might be to recommend a medicine?

Mr. Linstead: Yes, anyone engaged in commercial dealings in medicines.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: You refer to advertising. Do you mean postal advertising?

MR. LINSTEAD: Postal advertising and also in technica! journals.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: My impression, and this is confirmed by the proceedings at the Select Committee of 1914, is that the technical journals are by no means careful of the advertisements they publish.

MR. LINSTEAD: That may be so, but the journals are read

by informed readers, and that is the test.

SIR ARNOLD remarked that he was greatly surprised to find the range of technical journals that existed, and from samples

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he had taken they went from quasi-nursing home and mother journals, where there was every reason to recommend certain medicines and drugs, to the therapeutical journal, which used words beyond him. He asked whether it was possible to say that they advertised to the professions only because he found

similar advertisements in both types of journals.

MR. LINSTEAD replied that it was because the Society did not think it was a dividing line that could be practically applied that they abandoned it and adopted a more practical way by making the test whether it was a medicine to be sold only by chemists. If a manufacturer was going to confine his sale to chemists, it should be an ethical medicine, and they had abandoned the advertising to the public.
SIR ARNOLD WILSON: What do you call a chemist?

MR. LINSTEAD: Any pharmacy or corporate business carrying on business under the Pharmacy Act.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Would a Woolworth store be a

chemist's?

MR. LINSTEAD: Woolworth's is entitled to register a chemist as a superintendent and carry on business as chemists in shops where they have a chemist's department.

SIR JOHN HASLAM: And you would let a mere girl sell these goods in a shop because it is controlled by a chemist, or he

is employed in the same shop?

MR. LINSTEAD: You have got there a responsible and qualifield man who is in charge, and once you get away from that there is no responsibility at all. The qualified man is in control, and it is his responsibility. There are various phrases in the Acts that drugs of a certain character must be under the control of the pharmacist, and prescriptions have to be made up by him personally.

SIR JOHN HASLAM: Would you regard soap which claims to

cure body odour as dutiable?

Mr. Linstead: It depends whether body odour is a human ailment. I think it is really held out to be more of a relief for the complaint, not as a cure.

Mr. G. S. Hardie: The Society represents all chemists?

Mr. Linstead: Yes.

MR. HARDIE: And it covers the whole of Scotland?

MR. LINSTEAD: Yes.

Mr. Hardie: And they are in agreement with the memorandum?

Mr. Linstead: Yes.

Mr. E. H. Keeling: You will agree that whatever the object of the Treasury at the time, the object of the Treasury now is to raise revenue?

Mr. Linstead: Yes.

MR. KEELING: That being so, what ethical reason have you for suggesting that ethical medicines should be exempt from

the tax, when such a thing as tea pays a high tax?

Mr. Linstead: I think we have got to confine the field to the medical field. If you begin to compare all those products that are taxed with those that are not, I do not think you will find any particular reason why tea should be taxed and not cocoa; and when you come to medicines, I think you will find a difference between ethical medicines which are a real contribution to medical science, and the nationally advertised proprietary medicines.

Mr. Keeling: So you cannot suggest any reason for exempting ethical medicines so long as tea is taxed?

Mr. Linstead: I do not wish to make a comparison between tea and medicine. Tea and cocoa possibly, but not tea and medicine. I think medicine legitimately used for the treatment of the sick ought not to be taxed, but you come to a class where the use is more widespread, and there is a certain amount of non-ethical atmosphere about it, and I see no reason why they should not be taxed.

Mr. Keeling: On the last page of your *précis* of evidence you suggest that the chemist should be exempted from the licence of 5s. Would that give any advantage except the

saving of the 5s.?

Mr. Linstead: No, it is merely a matter of principle. the State has gone out of its way to make a man qualify, we do not see why the State should turn upon him to extract a further 5s. There is nothing to gain by it, except that sum and the principle.

THE CHAIRMAN: I take it that the State's answer is that

it is because of the cost of the Register.

MR. LINSTEAD: Under the Pharmacy Acts, there is a list of chemists and a list of their shops, which is kept by the

Pharmaceutical Society, and I do not think there is any

necessity for any other record to be kept.

Mr. Beverley Baxter drew attention to Beecham's Pills, which were taxed, and Eno's Fruit Salt, which was not, and asked whether from the chemists' standpoint it would be justice if they were both taxed.

MR. LINSTEAD: We see no difference between Ero's and

Beecham's. They are both non-ethical medicines and should

be taxed.

Mr. Baxter: Can you give us the name of any ethical laxative which is sold only to chemists?

Mr. Linstead: One does not occur to me, but I have no doubt-

Mr. Baxter: I cannot quite see where the ethical

MR. LINSTEAD: I should say that Cascara Evacuant is a good example of a laxative the sale of which is limited to chemists. Originally it was only sold under prescriptions, and then the public got to know it and bought it over the That is an example of something that is sold to chemists only, and is never advertised to the public and is mainly sold on doctors' prescriptions.

Mr. Baxter: If we distinguished in taxation between the

chemist and the village grocers who are all over the country, places where they do not have a chemist because he could not exist, but you must have a grocery store, we would be

punishing the purchasers of these remedies.

MR. LINSTEAD: We want to do away with the distinction between the country grocer and the chemist. Anything that is proprietary and non-ethical ought to be stamped, no matter who sells it, and in the case of the medicine which is to be stamped, it should be stamped everywhere.

MR. BAXTER: Do you think that a tax at source is preferable

to stamp duty?

MR. LINSTEAD: I should say that with the large medicines it would be a preferable way of collecting it, but you must have a stamp duty as an alternative where the medicines are in small packets.

In reply to Mr. Hardie, the witness said that as a Society they had no power to interfere with the ordinary commerce in drugs, and that the great majority of proprietary medicines

were, as medicines, satisfactory.

• Mr. R. T. D. Ackland: You say that Eno's is non-ethical, and if under your proposals they decided to sell only to chemists, Eno's would become untaxed?

Mr. Linstead: Yes, but it would involve a change. It would mean that Eno's would not be available to the man living in the village. That would be a deliberate sales policy of Eno's.

Mr. Ackland: Can you tell us the proportion of sales of medicines of all kinds that are now in the hands of chemists?

It might have an important bearing on the Committee.

MR. LINSTEAD: I am afraid I have no figures, but ammoniated tincture of quinine and all the household drugs are sold through the chemists, and with regard to the big nationally advertised medicines, I think the chemist has probably as much as the grocer, although the numbers of grocers are much larger. I cannot speak from figures, and it is merely guesswork.

Mr. G. H. Hall: Is it a fact that your Society has complained about the limited scope of this inquiry?

Mr. Linstead: To an extent, as in the memorandum. Mr. Hall: Do you think the public health aspect should

be taken into consideration? MR. LINSTEAD: We feel that sooner or later it has got to

be done. Mr. Hall: Do I gather that your Society would recommend

the desirability of arrangements being made that drugs and medicines, genuine and otherwise, should only be obtained through the chemist?

Mr. Linstead: No, that is going far beyond the recommendations we have made.

MR. HALL: Or through a store in which a chemist is

Mr. Linstead: As I understand the question, it is asking whether we claim that all medicines and drugs should be sold by chemists?

Mr. Hall: As wines and spirits can only be obtained from person licensed to sell, do you suggest there should be a similar limitation?

Mr. Linstead: With regard to that, I would say that all

medicines that have to be compounded, and all those drugs and medicines that we call ethical medicines, should only be sold at the hands of chemists.

MR. HALL: I gather from an earlier reply that you hold the view that the adjustment of taxation may mean the giving of a new lease of life to certain patent medicines?

MR. LINSTEAD: We drew attention to that, concerning the

medicines which were condemned in the 1914 report.

Mr. Hall: In paragraph 7 you speak of the effective control over the standard of advertising. Have you any suggestions to make as to how it should be secured?

MR. LINSTEAD: The Bill of 1935 contains proposals which if carried into effect would have effective control of advertising

of medicines as cures.

MR. HALL: Would your Society go as far as to take the view that if a medicine is advertised to cure a disease and it does

not, it should be open to conviction for fraud?

MR. LINSTEAD: If there were to be fraud in connexion with the claims made, I take it that a prosecution would lie under

the present law.

MR. HALL: Under your definition of ethical and non-ethical medicines in paragraph 18, I am obliged for the information. assume I am correct in understanding that an ethical medicine would be a medicine which is made up ready for sale but would be prescribed by a doctor? In my own family, a doctor prescribes a certain medicine already made up. That comes within the category of ethical?

MR. LINSTEAD: In the majority of cases, yes. It is the increasing practice of doctors not to write a prescription, but they say to the patient "Take so-and-so," and there is never

any piece of paper to identify the prescription.

In reply to Mr. G. Benson, Mr. LINSTEAD said there was no reason why firms should be taxed if they were making a serious effort to the progress of therapeutic science.

MR. Benson: Do Boots come in that?

MR. LINSTEAD: Yes, and also in the other category, and that illustrates that you must use some other criterion. witness added that there were some firms who did not try to force their articles on the public by any means, whether they were ailing or not, and such firms should not be taxed. Others advertised their goods, and did not care who bought them, or how they were bought, so long as the goods were sold.

MR. BENSON: Boots make their own particular aspirin, but they do not advertise it. They get the benefit of other people's advertising of aspirins and sell their own. Then we get the same thing with Beecham's Pills. Both kinds of firm are in the business for making the best profit. In order to sell Beecham's Pills, he puts an advertisement in the paper, and in order to sell the other things, Messrs. Boots open a shop?

THE CHAIRMAN: It seems that the answer is that the whole

thing is a matter of degree.

MR. LINSTEAD: I cannot help thinking that there is an immense difference between Beecham's Pills and the pill sold in the shop. It may be put in the shop window, but it is not advertised. Nobody would know what it was to see a bottle of pills in the window.

CAPTAIN A. H. M. RAMSAY: What ground have you for claiming the privilege of the monopoly of selling these medicines over any other shop?

Mr. Linstead: We make no claim for a monopoly at all. We say there are certain medicines which we describe as ethical medicines, which the chemist—because of his service to the public—should be allowed to sell unstamped, not that he should be allowed to sell alone.

CAPTAIN RAMSAY: It is difficult to show what is ethical and non-ethical. A chemist might be employed in a shop, and the rest of the twenty or thirty assistants are mere girls with no qualifications. You claim that he should be able to sell these medicines without a licence or any patent-medicine stamp over a shopkeeper who probably knows more about patent medicines than the chemist's assistant will ever know?

Mr. LINSTEAD: That is suggesting a special case, and I do not think it is fair. I know of no shop where there is a chemist

that also employs twenty or thirty girls.

CAPTAIN RAMSAY: You get a chemist in the place, and thereafter they would be able to sell all these medicines, and therefore my contention that there might be twenty or thirty girls would hold good?

MR. LINSTEAD: Under the Pharmacy Acts he is required to be in control, and these shops are inspected to see that they have effective control over the transactions that go on.

CAPTAIN RAMSAY: You cannot say it is effective control if he has all these girls selling these things. I want to get at the basis of your claim to be different from an ironmonger, grocer, or an oil and colourman. You already have a monopoly in the sale of poisons. I want to know whether you have a scheme. sale of poisons. I want to know whether you have a scheme You say the chemist can advise a purchaser as to the efficacy of particular products; but in practice, where a person goes in, the chemist does not say, "What is the matter with you? This will be excellent." He sells the proprietary article, and asks no questions unless he happens to be a friend.

MR. LINSTEAD: That may be with the nationally advertised medicines, but when you come to the other type, it is astonishing how much advice the public ask for, even as to castor oil.

The chemist renders a great deal of service in this respect.

Captain Ramsay: You claim the chemist should be free from the annual licence duty. Why should he be exempt? If he sold nothing but medicines, I could understand, but the modern chemist has developed into a departmental store, so why should he not be on the same level? You say he pays 50s., but that is the same as an auctioneer and a solicitor. The State does not get that.

MR. LINSTEAD: No, but he cannot practise unless he does pay it, and the money is spent in the administration of the Pharmacy Act. That is administered without any cost to the State. Our view is that if the State wants the chemist to pass examinations and go to the trouble to qualify, he is entitled to say that so far as the sale of medicines are concerned, he ought to be put in a different position than a person who performs no particular service to the State under the Act.

CAPTAIN RAMSAY: That is rather a big assertion. You already have privileges over other shopkeepers. Take the sale of poisons, which are not allowed except by a qualified chemist.

MR. LINSTEAD: That is a responsibility

CAPTAIN RAMSAY: Yes, and it is a privilege and a monopoly. Don't you think you are amply recompensed to have that monopoly and that privilege?

MR. LINSTEAD: I do not like the use of the word monopoly.

It suggests increased prices.

MR. LINSTEAD: The chemist is given a certain responsibility,

but I do not think that enters into it at all.

The witness was asked whether it was necessary for the qualified chemist to give advice when it was asked for in a shop, or whether it was not the usual practice for the girl who happened to serve who offered certain articles for particular complaints, and Mr. Linstead said that there was no restriction in this country on anybody giving advice. If any special inquiry came along, the girl would not deal with it, but would pass it on to the person who was competent to answer it.

Captain Ramsay: What about a headache?

MR. LINSTEAD: I should imagine the girl would have the sense to call someone.

Mr. Keeling: I understand that you do not regard the placing of a medicine in a shop window as sufficient advertising to make it taxable?

MR. LINSTEAD: Because of that possibility, we have not recommended that advertising to the public should be made a test of ethical and non-ethical.

Mr. Keeling: But you have done.

MR. LINSTEAD: Under paragraph 18, we attempt in very broad lines to explain the characters of ethical and non-ethical, but when we come on later, we have to put two possible criteria.

MR. KEELING: You realise that the display of one medicine in a shop window would be more effective display than a

large poster?

MR. LINSTEAD: It would be a means of advertising to the

Replying to a final question by Mr. Benson, the witness said that where a sale took place which required professional skill, it was where the qualified man was required. It was a regret-table economic necessity that the man who sold the dangerous drugs and medicines also sold soaps and brushes.

#### Proprietary Association's Evidence

The next witnesses called were Mr. J. A. Kenningham and Mr. F. A. S. Gwatkin, who gave evidence on behalf of the Proprietary Association of Great Britain. They submitted a statement, of which the following are the principal passages:-

The Proprietary Association of Great Britain—founded in 1919—includes in its membership practically all the manufacturers and vendors of well known proprietary medicines. . . .

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taration,

1.—The Medicine Stamp Duty Acts.—Between the years 1783-1812 a number of Acts were passed imposing Medicine Stamp Duty, and the Acts now in force are part of the Act of 1802, and the Acts of 1812 and 1833. Inere have been alterations and modifications of the duty. . . The literature on the subject (Alpe on Medicine Stamp Duty) points out that at the time the Acts were passed, medical science was in a very backward condition, and in knowledge and experience the quacks were not far behind ordinary medical practitioners, and the quacks and the ordinary practitioners appear to have been in competition. The same publication points out that it was by no means unusual for physicians of eminence to be the proprietor of some pill or powder or salve. Again, the chemist, as such, scarcely existed, and the whole of the dispensing of medicine was in the hands of apothecaries, who practically monopolised the trade. At the time when the Acts were passed there was no company law, the first Company Act being passed in 1852, nor was there any trade mark law, the first Trade Mark Law being passed in 1875. About sixty or seventy years ago a new industry commenced to grow up, such industry being concerned in the manufacture of pharmaceutical proprietaries, that is to say, proprietary articles made according to certain definite formulas and recommended for particular ailments. . . As the years went on, the value of a brand or trade mark, as applied to articles to distinguish particular preparations of goods, increased, and practically every well known medicine marketed at the present time, whether it be an ethical or a popularly advertised preparation, is sold under a brand or trade mark. . . Many millions of pounds have been invested as capital in these businesses. There will be produced to the Committee a statement showing the issued capital of certain companies, the shares of which are publicly dealt with, but there are in addition private firms and companies, and it is estimated that the capital employed in the actual industry i

Many of the manufacturers of proprietary medicines have scientific laboratories in which research is carried on in connexion with new preparations, especially those which may be useful in connexion with the progress of medical science. While in many cases there are proprietary medicines which are household names and which are used to meet simple ailments, such for instance as laxatives of the character of Beecham's Pills, there are more developed proprietaries which are based on the progress of science, such as internal antiseptics, hypnotics and the like. The medical profession very largely relies upon the research and activities of the manufacturing chemist all over the world to produce medicines required to meet present-day conditions. The well known remedies such as antipyrin, aspirin, pituitary extracts, liver extracts, etc., and the many synthetic preparations in current use in medicine have originated in the research laboratory of the manufacturing chemist.

3.—ENFORCEMENT OF THE ACTS.—It has been the duty of the Board of Customs to determine from time to time the liability in particular cases for duty. . . . Manufacturers have well appreciated the difficulties with which the Customs have been faced in enforcing the Acts, and it is desired to place on record the extreme fairness and courtesy with which the Customs have dealt with hindustry, although in particular cases individual manufacturers and the Customs have failed to agree. On a few occasions, proceedings under the Medicine Stamp Acts have come before the Court. . . From time to time the Customs have, no doubt in view of the difficulty in applying the Act or by reason of the unfairness which a strict interpretation of the Act would involve, given rulings whereby they have intimated that they will not press for duty in certain conditions, such as on bulk sale, prescription sales, etc.

of the difficulty in applying the Act of by feason of the unfairness which a strict interpretation of the Act would involve, given rulings whereby they have intimated that they will not press for duty in certain conditions, such as on bulk sale, prescription sales, etc.

4.—EKEMPTIONS.—The Acts provided for certain exemptions from Medicine Stamp Duty. . . It was the practice prior to 1930 for the proprietor of a medicine to cause his formula to be published in certain formularies well known in the trade, such as "Pharmaceutical Formulas" or the P.J.F. Formulary, and the like. . . . In 1930, however, the Board of Customs adopted a new rule whereby they indicated that they were unable to recognise any claim to such exemption unless a definite and complete statement of the actual ingredients, that is to say, the full formula with proportions and a statement that no proprietary rights are claimed in the preparation of the medicine, was printed on all labels, cartons, etc. This condition is still insisted upon by the Board of Customs although Mr. Justice Rowlatt in the case before referred to (Attorney-General v. Lewis & Burrows) decided that reference to a

published formula was sufficient disclosure. This conflict between a rule issued by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise and the opinion of a judge serves to illustrate one of the many difficulties experienced in administering legislative enactments whose provisions are out of touch with prevailing conditions. . . The special competition to which proprietary medicines have been subjected has been particularly unfair and owes its origin to the attempts made by the British Medical Association to discredit the use by the public of advertised remedies. Some years ago, the British Medical Association issued two books entitled "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies" in which they purported to describe and give the analyses of various advertised remedies. Many of these referred to were entirely unknown or had been off the market for years prior to the publication of the book. Of the betterknown remedies, the analyses were generally incorrect. The object of the books was to show that the cost of the ingredients of such remedies was infinitesimal compared with the price paid by the public for the article. No reference was made to the cost of manufacture, machinery, overheads, administrative and selling expenses and advertising. The publication of these books had the opposite effect to that which the British Medical Association had no doubt intended, as there sprang up a class of manufacturer who circularised the public with pamphlets in which in columns were set out the name of the genuine proprietary medicine and the alleged analysis taken from "Secret Remedies," and offering an article purporting to be made according to that formula at half the price. These imitations—which as a rule bear no resemblance to the genuine article—are sold free of any medicine stamp duty as they make no claims either as to their remedial value or proprietary rights and are generally sold under a number only. . . Specimens will be produced to the Committee. The result, therefore, was to increase the number of preparations on the market to the extent of these imitations, and at a loss to the Revenue, and in order to meet the unfair competition of these substitutes (generally sold at 6d.) the manufacturers were compelled to destamp, and in some cases to put a 6d. size (of the genuine article) on the market. The Revenue, it is claimed, does not in fact lose to any extent by the manufacturers bringing their remedies within the exemption relating to known, admitted and approved remedies, as when the Medicine Stamp Acts were enacted there was no income tax and, in fact, no income tax existed for a very large number of years. Any increased profit derived from avoidance of Medicine Stamp Duty therefore increases the yield of income tax and surtax. . . It is, however, to be pointed out that the exemption in respect of known, admitted and approved remedies only applies in the case of sales by certain qualified persons. . . . It is, however, impossible to have two prices for the same article as sold by chemists and as sold by unqualified verdors and, consequently, the manufacturer (and not the public) bears the whole or a proportion of the stamp on the article sold by the unqualified vendor. . . There are many thousands of well-known products sold under trade marks which could not be classified as medicines but which, at the same time, are held out for the prevention, cure or relief of ailments. For instance, beef extracts, such as Bovril and Oxo, which are largely advertised for the prevention of influenza. Whisky is from time to time advertised as one of the best means of preventing or curing a cold, and there are many brands of cereals or foods which are held out as being efficacious in cases of debility and the like. .

5.—The Duty.—Medicine stamp duty is in effect a sales tax equivalent to a minimum of 25 per cent. and, as will be hereinafter shown, of much higher percentage in certain cases. Apart from the fact that the duty is, in itself, very unfair, its incidence and gradation are unnecessarily oppressive. Although the rate of duty was doubled during the war as a war measure and accepted by the trade as such, it has never been reduced. . . Thus, an article made to sell at 2d, attracts a duty of 3d. (equalling 150 per cent.), an article made to sell at 1s. 1d. attracts a duty of 6d. (just under 50 per cent.) and an article made to sell at 2s. 5d. attracts a duty of 6d. (just over 20 per cent.). A manufacturer is, consequently, unable to give to the public the benefit of a larger or smaller package at an intermediate price without penalising himself or the public in respect of the duty, although, as will be appreciated, economic conditions require a very large number of articles to be sold at a low price. . . it is submitted that the abolition of the exemptions, thereby making many articles which have been sold for very many years past unstamped (by virtue of these exemptions) liable to duty at the rate now imposed, would inflict a very great hardship on the trade and the public (including the investing public) and would cause diminution of business and unemployment. . . Many of these preparations such as aperients, salines, etc., are essential to the health of the people, especially to those in sedentary occupations.

6.—Products Used as Medicines and for Other Purposes.—There are a number of preparations which are at the same time medicines and toilet or household preparations. . . . A very good example of such a preparation is petroleum jelly. Petroleum jelly is at present an entire article, and consequently can be sold without stamp duty. . . Vaseline Brand of Petroleum Jelly is undoubtedly used largely for household and industrial purposes, and if stamp duty were applied to all preparations which might be held out for the prevention, cure or relief of an ailment, then because this preparation was recommended for sore feet, every tube of Vaseline would be liable to stamp duty, regardless of the fact that it was

solely required for, say, lubricating a gun. It would be impossible for a manufacturer to put out the same preparation under different brands for particular purposes, as in such case he would to a great extent lose the benefit of his advertising, and would have to use a different trade mark for the preparation when employed for human use as opposed to household purposes. Moreover, a preparation such as petroleum jelly is sold in 1d. and 2d. tubes, and if duty were to be added the public would be paying a 3d. duty for a 1d. article. . . . Disinfectants are not, as such, liable to medicine stamp duty, unless such disinfectants are held out to prevent, cure or relieve human ailments, but the Board of Customs have from time to time claimed that the advertisements of disinfectants and germicides have contained such a claim and have endeavoured to claim medicine stamp duty in respect of such preparations. . . . It is contended that no disinfectant should be subject to any form of medicine stamp duty because it is obvious that the effect is merely germicidal. . . .

7.—The Case for the Manufacturers.—The manufacturers contend that medicine stamp duty is at the present time a very unfair tax on the industry and they would very strongly press for its abolition. It is claimed that medicinal preparations should not be subjected to what is virtually an abnormally high sales tax. It is true that this tax brings in a certain revenue, but this has been decreasing proportionately as manufacturers took advantage of the exemptions. However, as previously pointed out, there would not in fact be loss of revenue, as what is lost in stamp duty would be made up in tax on increased profits. . . . the manufacturers would ask for a recommendation for the complete abolition of the duty, including the licence duty.

Mr. Kenningham asked to supplement the statement. He said he would like to draw the attention of the Committee to the question of sales through broken bulk. Under the Act this was allowed, and it was possible that the original packet should be broken and small quantities sold out of it at a time. There was a large sale in this way of Beecham's Pills, Aspro, and all types of powders. The original package was stamped, and it was possible to sell in pennyworths in compliance with the law. Hundreds of thousands of pounds were spent in this way by the public, and if a duty was imposed on small packets, it would seriously interfere with some businesses, and perhaps put them out of business altogether.

Replying to questions by members of the Committee, he said that the public were safeguarded as to the quantities they received from the bulk packages, as a customer knew what he was going to receive for his money. In all about £2,500,000 was spent on advertising proprietary medicines in newspapers alone, but he was unable to say what was spent in other directions. His Association felt that medicines were not fit subjects for taxation, and that the stamp tax should be done away with altogether. He would not agree that when articles were supplied to huxters' shops they were subject to contamination through coming into contact with other goods. In the case of Aspro, they were sold in packages already made up in small quantities, and they would be in the same condition five years hence as they were at the moment. They had members in the Association who claimed proprietary rights on their medicines, and others who were exempt from stamp duty. Where articles were sold, such as bottles of tablets, they were sold as such and were not broken into by the shopkeeper, the duty being paid by the manufacturer. If a duty was to be paid, he claimed that everybody who sold the article should be equal. If a 5s. package of Beecham's Pills was sold, the manufacturers paid for the stamp. He would not say, judging from the price of the shares in the stock markets, that firms had been affected by the stamp duty, because the public paid for the stamp eventually. He could see no reason why, if the duties were continued, effervescent salt should not continue to be exempt. The firms concerned were sending in a separate memorandum to the Committee. Medicines were required when people were ill, and it did not seem the right time to impose a tax. Their proposals that were put to the Treasury three years ago still held good if they could not get complete abolition of the tax. If a fraudulent medicine came on to the market, it did not last long, as it was attacked by the newspapers, and the public did the rest. He had seen the machinery that was used to detect fraudulent medicines, but he could not disclose it, because he did not know how far it was confidential. The Advertising Association would, if necessary, analyse a preparation, and newspapers would not accept the advertisements. The advertising by members of his Association was on the whole quite fair. He would not agree that substitution was rampant by chemists or any other traders. They did not want a distinction as to whether the particular articles were sold by a chemist or a grocer. He agreed that

there was some curtailment of sales of proprietary articles, due to some taking advantage of other people's advertising, but he could not say to what extent it was. He had been in the trade for forty-five years, and would not agree there was any substitution. A chemist had thousands of lines in his shop, and did not desire to substitute any, because he sold the one that was asked for, got the profit on it, and was content. Although the last witness might have produced a large number of names to show they were swindling remedies, he would not agree that reputable newspapers would publish their adver-With regard to the iodine locket, he pointed out that Mr. Simpson, who was responsible for it, was a qualified chemist, and he should know what he was talking about. If the stamp duty was altered and commenced at \( \frac{1}{4} \)d., he contended it would be extremely difficult to sell a pennyworth of Beecham's Pills with a stamp on them; it would be almost impossible. He did not know it was the custom in most parts of Europe. No steps were taken by his Association, other than strict observance of the rules, to test the repute of articles sold by members of the Association. He would not agree that a number of articles sold by members of his Association were described by the 1914 Select Committee as fraudulent. He considered there would be difficulty in setting up a body to decide claims if the duty was imposed according to the claims. The memorandum which had been put before the Committee was put before a general meeting of the Association in broad outline some two months ago, and approved. They were authorised by the general meeting to ask for the total abolition of the duty, and that was the only point on which they could reach unanimity. He would not like to leave it to the committee of doctors to decide what medicines should come under the different categories. He considered that doctors were not a competent body to settle the ingredients of medicines. He did not say that there were no fraudulent medicines on the market, but that there were none who were members of his Association, and very few who were outside it.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: At least half of what I would regard as border-line cases of fraud are outside your Association altogether.

MR. Kenningham: Is that not rather a testimonial to the

Association?

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Yes, but it suggests a very large traffic in drugs by persons you do not represent. What proportion of proprietary medicines are produced by your members?

MR. KENNINGHAM: There is hardly a reputable firm who is outside it, and the sales of our members are an enormous

proportion of the whole.

In reply to further questions, the witness said that the public were in no way concerned about the formula of a remedy, and they did not care whether disclosure of the ingredients or the proportions was made. None of the members of the Committee sold medicated wines, but there were two firms in the Association who did.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: What brings them into your net? Mr. Kenningham: They applied for membership, and there

was no reason for refusing.

SIR ARNOLD WILSON: Do you, as an Association, take any steps to investigate whether any particular claims are or are not fraudulent, or have you taken part in any prosecution for fraud?

Mr. Kenningham: No, we only go by our rules. We always ask for the whole of their printed matter, and may have to tell them that certain things will have to be altered, as claims must not be made concerning particular diseases.

must not be made concerning particular diseases.

The Chairman said that he had a number of questions which he was going to put to the witness. In those circumstances, if called upon, perhaps the witness would give evidence before the Committee on some future occasion.

The Committee adjourned to December 8.

BOOTS OPERATIC SOCIETY have presented "The New Moon" at the Nottingham Theatre Royal.

In praise of snuff.—''I urged [in 'The Times'] that the daily clearance of the nose by a pinch of snuff reduced the risk of a cold in the head to its minimum. Since then you have published, and I have received, letters from grateful followers of this advice. . . . Can anything be more offensive to its victim, and to his surrounding friends, than a cold in the head? Snuff is agreeable and astringent, but any other dust will suffice, even that from the shelf of our standard authors.''—Sir Buckston Browne in ''The Times.''

# Anti-Gas Precautions

#### Mr. Davidson Pratt's Lecture to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

NDER the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. J. Davidson Pratt, O.B.E., M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C., general manager of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, gave an address at the Great Hall, University College, London, W.C.I, on December I, on "The Defence of the Civil Population Against Gas." The president of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. T. Marns) presided and was supported by Mr. H. N. Linstead (secretary), Mr. E. H. Simmons (vice-president), Mr. A. R. Melhuish, Mr. E. S. Peck, Mr. P. F. Rowsell, Mr. T. Guthrie, and other members of the Council. The meeting was well attended.

MR. MARNS, in introducing the speaker, described his long

association with chemical warfare.

Mr. Davidson Pratt opened his address by reviewing the international position and stressed the need for organising the civil population against the effects of attack by chemical warfare. He then gave a general outline of the nature of the menace, distinguishing between persistent and non-persistent

Of basic importance from the point of view of defence were the physical characteristics of the gas used. Liquids with low boiling points, and toxic smokes, were liberated as clouds of gas or fine particles; and the area on which they were liberated was, generally speaking, free from gas after a comparatively short period. With liquids of high boiling point the reverse was the case. The main difference between the two groups was that the persistent gases left a contaminated area which had to be cleansed or decontaminated before the area was safe, while the non-persistent gases did not. He then dealt with the general principles of the methods of defence. The main defence for the fighting services in the field would be the gas mask or respirator. The safest thing for the civilian population was to remain indoors. Mr. Davidson Pratt stressed the need for every house or other building having a gas-proof room and for the public to take cover immediately a warning of attack is given. He detailed the various ways a room could be adapted and made gas-proof and the larger rooms provided with air-locks. Dealing with the provision of gas masks for the civil population, Mr. Pratt said the cost of each mask was about 2s. 6d., and it was estimated that thirty million would be ready for issue by the end of 1937, in the event of emergency arising. The civilian duty respirator was for use by those engaged in the essential services, costing 10s. A general service respirator for the Forces, etc., costing ios. A general service respirator for the Folces, etc., costs about 20s. A general review on methods of detection and diagnosis of gases, decontamination and the services of decontamination squads was given. The Government had decided that the organisation of air raid precautions should be the responsibility of the local authorities. The Government had also established a civilian gas school in the West Country to provide training in anti-gas measures for instructors, who would be competent to give local training in their own districts. Arrangements had also been made whereby the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society would work in the closest co-operation with the local authorities. with the pharmacist's part in the scheme of defence, Mr. Davidson Pratt said that it ought to be an important part and he was sure it would. The pharmacist had a scientific training in chemistry and physics and was therefore well equipped to deal with such a technical subject as gas defence. Better still, he was essentially a practical man versed in the handling of chemical products and in their reactions. He could therefore be expected to deal with any problem presented to him in a practical manner. The chemist's shop was to be found every-where, except perhaps in the smaller villages, and the general public were in the habit of coming to him not only to purchase the wide range of articles which his shop contains, but also for advice on intimate problems. The chemist's shop was therefore likely to be a rallying point for people who were in trouble during and after aid raids. All these considerations showed that the pharmacist would be expected to keep his shop in active operation and that he had it in his power through his shop to render valuable service to the community in the scheme of defence. Quite apart from any arrangements the local authority might make to instruct the people, the pharmacist should be in a position to answer any queries that might

be put to him and to give advice as to methods and materials. He should be able to advise and help people in fitting gas masks and to deal with queries as to the best methods of handling them after a gas attack, and of keeping them in readiness for another. Though each civilian would be provided with a gas mask by the Government when the emergency arose, there was likely to be a demand for gas masks by some of the well-to-do members of the community. This the pharmacist might deal with as a convenient distributor by keeping stocks of suitable designs under conditions that would maintain their efficiency over long periods of time. The pharmacist could also be of great help in connexion with the first-aid services. Mr. Davidson Pratt concluded his address with the statement that the Government had a full realisation of the problem, and was actively taking those steps which in its opinion would best achieve the desired end.

When the meeting was thrown open for questions, the chairman was immediately asked by one member whether there would be discussion as well as questions; the circular announcing the meeting had stated that the comments of pharmacists would be welcomed. The president asked for questions only at first; if there was any time left discussion would be

welcomed.

The speaker was then asked how pharmacists could be at the front and in their own shop at the same time ("In my opinion, there will not be any front in the next war"); whether chimneys in gas-proof rooms should be sealed or left open as a ventilating shaft ("Only if a fan is available"); whether a person whose clothing had been contaminated with persistent gases would be well advised to immerse himself, fully clad, in water ("No experiments have been done on that; I should be inclined to advise removal of clothing "); whether there was danger of contamination of water sources ("None at all; that is provided for "); whether questions of virus and anaphylactic poisoning had been considered ("There are two sets of opinion as to the likelihood of such methods being used at all; as to their success if used, I think any country with good health services could cope with them "); whether there might not have been some misjudgment as to the value of the cheap gas masks ("The masks have been tested and found adequate against all gases in the circumstances in which they would be used "); and what the pharmacist should do in areas in which the local authority refused to co-operate with the Home Office in defence measures ("I believe I am right in saying that there is only one such authority left in the country").

Mr. Simmons, who moved a vote of thanks to the speaker, declared that it should not be left to pharmacists themselves to agitate for recognition by local authorities; their attention should be drawn to the existence of pharmacists by the central

Mr. H. N. LINSTEAD (secretary), who seconded the vote of thanks, strongly asserted that the Society had not been asleep over the position of pharmacists in regard to anti-gas defence. As long as two years ago the services of pharmacists had been offered to the Government by the Society. The Government, he said, were now seriously considering the best use to which they could be put. Laughter at this remark drew from Mr. Linstead a stout defence of the Home Office, who had had to tackle, he said, an extremely difficult task in a very short space of time. Mr. Pratt had mentioned gas detection officers; that was a possibility for pharmacists which was at present under consideration. Local first-aid stations had also been mentioned. In all probability it would be found that local authorities would draw their supplies from retail chemists. The main conclusion that the Home Office and the Society had come to, in consultation, was that the most useful place in which pharmacists could serve the community was in their own pharmacies. The Society had always envisaged a first-aid service provided by pharmacists independently of the St. John Ambulgage and British Red Cross organizations. This involved Ambulance and British Red Cross organisations. This involved being familiar with technical questions, and he would advise all pharmacists to read the Home Office booklets, especially No. I in the series. Mr. Linstead apologised to the speaker for the miscellaneous nature of the questions asked, which might not be, he thought, the type of question expected.

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# Trade Report

Where possible scales of prices of chemicals are given for bulk down to small quantities. Prices recorded for crude drugs, essential and fixed oils and coal tar products are for fair sized wholesale quantities. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, essential and fixed oils, etc., vary, and selected brands or grades would be at higher values

#### 28 Essex Street, W.C.2, December 3

Business in the majority of the markets continues on a fairly satisfactory scale, with the general tone steady and many of the natural products distinctly firm. Anglo-Italian business has reopened on a good scale, and supplies of materials from Italy are now coming to hand. The turnover in Pharmaceutical Chemicals is still rather less than was anticipated for the time of year. The expected advance in the home trade scale of prices for Glycerin, B.P., has taken place, with the market very firm and supplies extremely short. The home trade scale of quantities and terms of payment for Bismuth Salis have been amended. The international Bismuth Convention met this week, and it was agreed to continue the present agreement up to the end of 1937. Santonin continues in small demand, and is competitive on quotation.

#### Crude Drugs

New crop Agar for shipment in the new year is quoted dearer. Practically all the recent arrivals of Curaçao Aloes have been taken into consumption. Spot values for Buchu tend to weaken gradually. All descriptions of Cardamoms are firm. Fair spot sales of Cascara Sagrada at full prices. Cloves are fractionally easier. Prices for Cocoa Butter continue to advance. Shipment offers of Derris Root are slightly dearer. Very little business in Ergot this week. Sudan Gum Acacia remains slack and cheap. Values of Matto Grosso Iperacucanha are very firm on spot, and supplies are scarce, with no shipment offers. Average business is reported in Japanese Menthol, with spot and forward prices about maintained. More business in Shensi Rhubarb reported; cheaper grades are firm on a small supply. Rubber shows a further good appreciation. Senga remains slack. Rather more business in some descriptions of Senna. Tragacanth is quoted unchanged for all qualities but business has slackened off; no supplies coming forward. Bees' Waxes have sold well, with supplies on spot running low. Carnauba Wax has been dull. Myrrh is being inquired for on spot, but supplies are practically exhausted; only some poor stuff left at high figures. There has been no arrivals recently. At the annual sale of Castoreum this week business was brisk, with all lots offered and sold at good prices.

#### **Essential Oils**

In some of the leading products heavy business is recorded while, generally, the trade has been well up to average for November. Spot supplies of Anise (Star) are moving quietly, while there is nothing offered forward. At the moment there are no shipment offers for Bergamor; supplies are now coming to hand and are held firm in view of the generally strong position. Madagascar Clove is firm and in small supply. Australian Eucalyptus is very firm on spot. Sicilian hand-pressed Lemon has sold forward in quantities, and the tone of the shipment market is strong. Japanese Peppermint continues quite steady on spot, with fair business being done; Japanese shippers are not offering December despatch. The source reports further advances in forward prices for American natural Peppermint; spot offers are comparatively cheap, with supplies fairly plentiful.

#### Exchange Rates on London

The following is a list of the chief Continental and other exchange rates at the opening on Thursday morning:—

Cen	tre	Quoted	Par	Nov. 26	Dec. 3
Amsterdam Berlin Brussels Copenhager Lisbon Madrid Milan Montreal New York Oslo Paris Prague Stockholm Warsaw Zurich		Fls. to f Mks. to f Belgas to f Kr. to f Esc. to f Ptas. to f Dol. to f Dol. to f Kr. to f Kr. to f Kr. to f Kr. to f Kr. to f Fr. to f	12:107 20:43 nominal 18:159 110 25:22½ 92:46 4:86¾ nominal 18:159 124:21 164:25 18:150 43:38 25:2115	9·03 12·17 28·96 22·40 110 nominal 93 4·88½ 4·88½ 10·90 105½ 138½ 19·40 26 21·29	9 · 02 12 · 19 22 · 40 110 nominal 93 k 4 · 90 k 4 · 90 k 19 · 90 105 k 138 k 19 · 40 26 · 21 · 35

Bank rate 2 per cent.

#### Pharmaceutical Chemicals, etc.

A fair amount of business is being transacted, the bulk of which has been for limited quantities of spot goods. Glycerin, B.P., for home trade, is quoted substantially dearer. Makers' scales of quantities and terms of payment for bismuth salts have been slightly amended.

AMDOPYRINE.—Business slow, quotations competitive: crystals, five cwt., 18s. 0\frac{3}{4}d.; two cwt., 18s. 5\frac{1}{4}d.; less than two cwt., 18s. 10\frac{1}{2}d. per lb., with powder 2\frac{1}{2}d. per lb. extra.

Ammonium ichthiosulphonate.—Quoted unchanged, fair business: one cwt., is. 6½d., in 14-lb. tins; is. 8d., in 1-lb. tins; is. 10½d., in 8-oz. tins, and 2s. 1d. per lb., in 4-oz. tins.

ASPIRIN.—Makers' and dealers' prices steady, business good; home trade, ten cwt., 2s. 7d.; five cwt., 2s. 8d.; one cwt., 2s. 8½d.; 28 lb., 2s. 9d.; 14 lb., 2s. 1od.; 7 lb., 3s.; 4 lb., 3s. 2d.; 1 lb., 3s. 4d. per lb. Bulk packing free, net, carriage paid. Contracts, over twelve months, minimum one ton; over six months, less than one ton

Barbitone.—Restricted business, market unsteady: spot, one cwt., 158.  $3^3_4$ d.; 56 lb., 158. 8d.; small parcels, up to 168. per lb.

Benzoic acid (B.P.).—Business fairly good, market steady: quantities, ex works, is, 9½d.; spot parcels, is, iod. to 2s, 3d. per lb., ex store, as to quantity.

BISNUTH SALTS.—Makers' scales of quantities and terms of payment have been amended, as follows, and came into operation on November 30:—

	Net N	Ionthly Acc	Net 14 days		
	under 4 lb.	4 lb. and under 8 lb.	8 lb, and under 28 lb	28 lb. and under 1 cwt.	Not less than r cwt.*
Carbonate Citrate Nitrate Cryst Oxide Salicylate Subchloride Subgallate Subnitrate	s. d. 8 6 11 8 6 7 12 8 9 11 12 5 9 7 7 8	s. d. 8 0 11 2 6 1 12 2 9 5 11 11 9 1 7 2	s. d. 7 3 10 5 5 4 11 5 8 8 11 2 8 4 6 5	s. d. 6 9 9 11 4 10 10 11 8 2 10 8 7 10 5 11	s. d. 6 6 9 8 4 7 10 8 7 11 10 5 7 7 5 8

\* Contracts are booked for 1 cwt. and upwards for delivery over three months and are subject to a rise and fall clause. A rebate of 3d. per lb. is allowed on sales of not less than 2 cwt. salts (assorted if required) provided delivery is completed within three months. All deliveries ex contract are sold on net cash 14 days' terms.

three months. All deliveries ex contract are sold on net cash 14 days' terms.

Bromides.—Makers' scales of prices steady. No Continental quotations. Potassium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 8d.; one cwt., 1s. 9d.; 28 lb., 2s. per lb. Sodium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 1od.; one cwt., 1s. 11d.; 28 lb., 2s. 2d. per lb. Ammonium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 11d.; one cwt., 2s.; 28 lb., 2s. 3d. per lb., net. Resale clause applies. 28-lb. parcels and one-cwt. cases free. Export quotations are maintained, as follows: Potassium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 4d.; one cwt., 1s. 4½d. Sodium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 5d.; one cwt., 1s. 5½d. Ammonium, B.P., five cwt., 1s. 6½d.; one cwt., 1s. 6½d.; one cwt., 1s. 6½d. aper lb., f.o.b.

BUTYL CHLORAL HYDRATE.—Small spot inquiry: spot, 14 lb., 8s.; 7 lb., 8s. 3d.; 1 lb., 8s. 6d. per lb., in 1-lb. bottles.

CAFFEINE.—Continental material, spot prices: pure alkaloid, two cwt., 7s. rod.; one cwt., 8s.; 56 lb., 8s. 2d.; smaller quantities, 8s. 4d. per lb., delivered, 5-lb. tins free, smaller packing extra. Citrate, two cwt., 5s. 5\frac{3}{4}\text{d.}; one cwt., 5s. 6\frac{3}{4}\text{d.}; 56 lb., 5s. 7\frac{3}{4}\text{d.}; smaller quantities, 5s. 8\frac{3}{4}\text{d.} per lb., delivered. British material, pure, 56 lb., 8s. 4d.; less, 8s. 6d. per lb. Citrate, 56 lb., 5s. 9d.; less, 6s. per lb.

CALCIUM LACTATE.—Continues in demand at steady prices: one cwt., 18. 0\(\frac{3}{4}\)d.; 56 lb., 18. 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)d.; 28 lb., 18. 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)d.; smaller quantities, up to 18. 6d. per lb.

Chloroform.—Prices quoted by the makers are: two cwt., 2s. 5½d. per lb.; one cwt., 2s. 6d.; 56 lb., 2s. 6½d.; less, 2s. 7½d. per lb., in w-quarts of 8 lb. Packed in drums, ½d. per lb. less. Small bottles extra, from 5d. per lb. for ½-lb. bottles to rd. for 2-lb. bottles. Carriage paid on minimum cwt. lots.

CITRIC ACID (B.P. CRYSTALS).—Market is steady: British material quoted at is. per lb., less 5 per cent. discount, nominal and without engagement. Dealers' prices for imported material are competitive.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Fair business, market steady: British material, 99 to 100 per cent., 79s. per cwt., less 2½ per cent. discount. Dealers' prices for foreign material competitive.

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GLYCERIN (B.P.).—Makers' prices for chemically pure, double distilled S.G. 1.260, have been advanced £10 per ton, as follows:—

Contracts or single deliveries of	Under r cwt.	r cwt. and under 2½ cwt.	2½ cwt. and under 5 cwt.	5 cwt. and under 10 cwt.	10 cwt. and under 20 cwt.	r ton and under 5 ton
Minimum deliveries off contracts of		ı cwt;	ı ewt.	ı cwt.	2 cwt.	5 cwt.
In glass packages I lb. bottles per lb. I Winchester ,, Winchesters ,,  6 ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	s. d. 1 1 1 0 11 10½ 10	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tins 14 lb. per cwt. Tins 28 lb. Tins 56 lb.  Drums 1 cwt. (charged 20s.)	92 6 89 6 86 6	88 0 85 6 83 0	87 0 84 6 82 0	84 0 81 6 79 0	83 0 80 6 78 0	79 0 76 6 74 0
Drums 2½ cwt. (charged 6os.) ,, Drums 5 cwt.	_	78 6	77 6 75 6	74 6 72 6	73 6 71 6	69 6 67 6
(charged 75s.) ,, Drums 10 cwt. (charged 100s.) ,,	-	_	_	72 0	71 0 70 6	67 o 66 6

Tins and cases free, glass packages and iron drums charged extra and returnable. Drums credited in full only if returned carriage forward in good condition within six months of date of invoice. Conward in good condition within six months of date of invoice, contracts are booked for delivery over 12 months. 2½ per cent, monthly account except where stated net. 14 lb. and over carriage paid direct ex works, smaller quantities carriage paid if forming part of a carriage paid order. Any style and size of package may be assorted to secure relative quantity price. The prices are quoted subject to an undertaking on the part of the buyer not to resell at prices and terms below the scale for such quantities current at the treatle is made. the time the resale is made.

HEXAMINE.—Makers' prices for bulk quantities are keen: moderate business: B.P. powder, at about 1s. 2½d.; free-running crystals from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. per lb., carriage paid, for bulk lots. Dealers quoting free-running crystals, one cwt., 1s. 4d.; 14 lb., 1s. 8d.; smaller parcels, up to 2s. per lb., carriage paid.

IRON QUININE CITRATE.—Makers' prices are as follows: not less than 100 oz., 10½d., in 100-oz. tins; 10¾d., in 25-oz. tins; 11d., in 16-oz. bottles; 11¼d., in 4-oz. and 8-oz. bottles; 1s. o½d., in 1-oz. bottles; less than 100-oz. lots, from 11d. to 1s. 4d. per oz., according to packing and quantities. ing to packing and quantity.

LACTIC ACID (B.P.).—Fairly good business, with bulk quantities quoted at keen prices: quantities, in carboys, 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5d.; in winchesters and bottles, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb., as to quantity.

MERCURIALS.—Makers' scales of prices continue firm: not less than one cwt., ammoniated, B.P., lump, 5s. 5d.; powder, 5s. 7d.; bichloride, B.P., lump, 4s. 8d.; powder, 4s. 4d.; chloride, B.P., 5s. 5d.; yellow oxide, B.P., 5s. tod.; persulphate, white, B.P.C., 5s. 7d.; sulphide, black (hyd. sulph. cum sulph., 5o per cent.), 5s. 6d.; less than one cwt., ammoniated, B.P., lump, 5s. 6d.; powder, 5s. 8d.; bichloride, B.P., lump, 4s. 9d.; powder, 4s. 5d.; chloride, B.P., 5s. 6d.; yellow oxide, B.P., 5s. 1rd.; persulphate, white, B.P.C., 5s. 8d.; sulphide, black (syd. sulph. cum sulph., 5o per cent.), 5s. 7d. per lb. Special prices for large quantities. per lb. Special prices for large quantities.

METHYL SALICYLATE.—Seasonal business on a moderate scale: spot. ten cwt., 1s.  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d.; five cwt., 1s. 2d.; one cwt., 1s.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d.; less than one cwt., 1s.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.; small quantities, in bottles, up to 2s. per lb.

Methyl sulphonal.—Not much inquiry, quotations are keen: two cwt., 19s. 3\frac{3}{4}d.; one cwt., 19s. 9\frac{1}{4}d.; 56 lb., 20s. 2\frac{3}{4}d.; small parcels, up to 20s. 9d. per lb.

Paraeormaldehyde.—Steady business in limited quantities: 100 per cent. powder, quantities in kegs, 1s. 1d.; smaller parcels, 1s. 2d. to is. 6d. per lb., as to quantity.

PHENACETIN.—A little more inquiry, with the market steady as quoted: crystals or powder, bulk quantities, 2s. 6d.; smaller parcels, 2s. 7d. to 3s. per lb., as to quantity.

PHENAZONE.—Only a small business, with spot quotations very keen: crystals, five cwt., 8s. 7\(\frac{1}{4}\)c; two cwt., 8s. 9\(\frac{3}{4}\)c; and less, 9s. per lb., with powder 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)d. per lb. extra.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN.—Fair business in small parcels, quoted unchanged: two cwt., 2s. 9d.; one cwt., 2s. 1od., 28 lb., 3s.; 14 lb., 3s. Id.; 7 lb., 3s. 2d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 6d. per lb.

PHENYLETHYLBARBITURIC ACID.—Steady business, with prices about 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. per lb., in 2-lb. bottles, as to quantity

Photographic chemicals.—Amidol.—28 lb., 7s. 6d.; 14 lb., 8s. 3d.; 7 lb., 9s.; under 7 lb., 11s. 9d. per lb., in 1-lb. bottles. Chlorquinol.—1-lb. bottles, 21s. per lb. Glycin.—7 lb., 10s. 6d.; 1-lb. bottles, 13s. 6d. per lb. Hydroquinons.—56 lb., 4s. 10½d.; 28 lb., 5s.; 14 lb., 5s. 3d.; 7 lb., 5s. 6d.; 1-lb. bottles, 6s. 6d. per lb. Metol.—28 lb., 9s. 6d.; 14 lb., 9s. 9d.; 7 lb., 10s. 9d.; 3 lb., 11s. 6d.; 1-lb. bottles, 12s. 6d. per lb. Alum (photographic quality).—1 cwt., 21s. per cwt.; 28 lb. for 6s. Gold chloride.—15-grain tube, 52s. 6d. per doz.

Magnesium powder.—ios. per lb. Paramidophenol hydrochlor.— MAGNESIUM POWDER.—10S. Per Ib. PARAMIDOPHENOL HYDROCHLOR.—8S. 6d. per Ib. POTASSIUM EERRICYANIDE.—14 lb., 2s. 3d.; 7 lb., 2s. 6d.; 1 lb., 2s. 9d. per Ib. POTASSIUM METABISULPHITE.—One cwt., 7½d.; 28 lb., 8d.; 14 lb., 9d.; 7 lb., 11d.; 1 lb, 1s. per lb. Pyrogallic acid.—28 lb., 6s. 9d.; 14 lb., 7s. 6d.; 7 lb., 8s. 3d.; under 7 lb., 8s. 9d. per lb. Sodium carbonate (recryst).—5 cwt., 12s. 6d. per cwt.; 1 cwt., 15s. 6d. per cwt.; 56 lb. for 11s. 6d.; 28 lb. for 6s. Sodium hyposulphite, cubes, cryst.—5 cwt., 16s. 3d.; 1 cwt., 18s. 6d. per cwt.; 56 lb. for 1s. 6d.; 28 lb. for 6s. Sodium sulphide (pure).—2 lb. 1s. 3d.; 1 lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 3d.; 1 lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 5d. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. 3d.; 1 lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. per lb. 1s. 6d. per lb. 1s. per lb. 1s (PURE).-7 lb., is. 3d.; i lb., is. 6d. per lb.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE (B.P.).—With the possibility of an increase in the import duty in the New Year, spot values tend to be

firmer but so far are unchanged.

Potassium sulphoguaiacolate.—Rather keen competition for a small business: quoted at about 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d. per lb., as to quantity

Quinine salts.—Convention prices continue nominally unchanged. Quoted in sterling, no foreign currencies: sulphate, 2s. 2d.; bisulphate, 2s. 2d.; ethyl carbonate, 2s. 9\frac{3}{4}.; salicylate, 2s. 10\frac{1}{2}d.; hydrochloride, 2s. 8\frac{1}{2}d.; bihydrochloride, 3s.; hydrobromide, 2s. 8\frac{1}{2}d.; bihydrobromide, 3s.; valerianate, 3s. 8d.; hypophosphite, 4s.; alkaloids, 3s. 0\frac{1}{2}d. per oz., carriage paid on bulk quantities; 100-0z. tins free, smaller packages extra.

RESORCIN.—British material only at steady prices: crystals, one cwt., 4s. 11d.; 56 lb., 5s.; 28 lb., 5s. 1d.; 14 lb., 5s. 3d.; 7 lb., 5s. 6d.; less than 7 lb., up to 6ş. per lb.

SACCHARIN.—The Convention price for 550 is 37s. 6d. per lb., duty paid, with rebates for quantities.

Salicylic acid (B.P.).—A moderate demand, market steady: five cwt., is. 7d.; one cwt., is.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 28 lb., is. 8d.; 14 lb., is. 9d.; 7 lb., is. iod.; 4 lb., 2s. per lb.

Salol.—Business has been of little importance, spot quotations unsteady and in the region of 2s. 3d. to 2s. 72d. per lb., as to quantity.

Santonin.—Continues in slow demand with competition for business in the region of £13 10s. to £14 per kilo, as to quantity

SODIUM BENZOATE (B.P.).—Fair business at former prices: bulk quantities, is. 6d.; one cwt., is. 7d.; smaller parcels, is. 8d. to 2s. per lb., as to quantity.

SODIUM DIETHYLBARBITURATE.—Continues about steady, moderate demand: spot, one cwt., 12s. 3d.; 28 lb., 12s. 6d.; 14 lb., 12s. 9d.; 7 lb., 13s.; smaller parcels, up to 13s. 6d. per lb.

SODIUM SALICYLATE (B.P.).—Moderate business, with quoted prices about steady: home trade, crystals or powder, five cwt., is. 5½d.; one cwt., is. 6d.; 28 lb., is. 9d.; 14 lb., is. 11d.; 7 lb., 2s.; 1 lb., 2s. 3d. per lb.

Sulphonal.—Rather slow business, quotations are keen: crystals or powder, two cwt., 15s.  $5_4^4$ d.; one cwt., 15s.  $10_4^3$ d.; 56 lb., 16s. Id.; smaller parcels, up to 16s.  $7_2^4$ d. per lb.

TARTARIC ACID (B.P. CRYSTALS).—Market continues steady: British makers quote at is, per lb., less 5 per cent. discount. Dealers offering foreign materials at competitive prices.

THEOBROMINE.—Continental material: pure, two cwt., 7s. 1od.; one cwt., 8s.; 56 lb., 8s. 2d.; smaller quantities, 8s. 4d. per lb. Sodium, salicylate, two cwt., 6s. 3\dd; one cwt., 6s. 4\dd; 56 lb., 6s. 5\dd; smaller quantities, 6s. 6\dd. per lb., delivered, 5-lb. tins free, smaller packages extra

THYMOL.—Rather more inquiry, quotations steady: synthetic, fine white, one cwt., 6s.; 56 lb., 6s. 3d.; 28 lb., 6s. 9d.; 7 lb., 7s. per lb.; ex ajowan seed, one cwt., 8s. 5d.; 56 lb., 8s. 10½d.; 28 lb., 9s. 5½d.; 14 lb., 10s. 6d. per lb.

Vanillin.—Convention prices steady, fair business: ex clove oil or guaiacol, five cwt., 12s. 9d.; one cwt., 13s.; 56 lb., 13s. 3d.; less, 13s. 9d. per lb.

#### Crude Drugs, etc.

Aconite Root.—Dealers are offering spot supplies at about 45s. per cwt., for small parcels.

AGAR.—Moderate spot business at steady prices. New crop for January-February shipment: spot, Kobe No. 1, 2s. 8d.; No. 2, 2s. 6d.; Yokohama No. 1, 2s. 5d. per lb.; shipment, Kobe No. 1, 2s. 5d.; No. 2, not quoted; Yokohama No. 1, not quoted. New January-February shipment quoted dearer from Japan at 2s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

Aloes.—The Curação product is fully steady on spot and shipment offers are firm and restricted. Cape are steady and in quiet demand. Cape, spot, 60s. to 62s. 6d., as to quality; shipment, prime, 57s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. Curação, spot, 96s. to 120s., as to quality; shipment, from 92s. 6d. to 97s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

ANTIMONY.—Chinese crude, November-December shipment, is quoted at £27, c.i.f. English regulus, £67 10s. to £68 10s., spot.

BALSAMS.—Business is still rather slow, values about maintained:

Tolu, 1s. 9d.; Canada, 2s. 8d.; Copaiba, 1s. 2d.; Peru, 5s. 4d. per

Buchu.—Business has been slow and small this week and prices are barely steady. Rounds, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d., as to quality, and ovals, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d. per lb., ex store.

Camphor.—Rather more demand on spot, values quite steady: apanese, spot, tablets, 2s. 5d.; powder, 2s. 2½d.; slabs, 2s. 2¼d. Camphor.—Rather more demand on spot, values quite steady: Japanese, spot, tablets, 2s. 5d.; powder, 2s. 2½d.; slabs, 2s. 2½d. per lb., duty paid; shipment, tablets, 2s. 1½d.; powder, 1s. 11d.; slabs, 1s. 10½d. per lb., c.i.f.; English refined flowers, one cwt., 3s. 1d.; 28 lb., 3s. 2d.; small lots, 3s. 3d. per lb. Transparent tablets, 4 oz., 8 oz. and 16 oz., 3s. 4d.; 1 oz. and 2 oz., 3s. 5d.; ½ oz., ½ oz. and ½ oz., 3s. 6d. per lb. Contracts at special prices.

Cantharides.—Only small spot orders on the market: spot, Russian, 6s.; Chinese, 1s. 1od. to 2s. per lb., as to quantity; shipment, 1s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f.

CARDAMOMS.—Values are fully maintained for all descriptions, with supplies very short on spot. Aleppy greens, shipment, 3s. 4d., c.i.f.; Bombay seed, 4s. 7d. per lb., c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Fair amount of small business being done, market fully steady. Spot, 1933, peel, 65s.; 1936 peel, 56s. 6d. per cwt., ex store. Shipment, 1934 peel, 56s.; 1936 peel, 52s. per cwt., c.i.f.

The annual sale of the Hudson's Bay Company was CASTOREUM.held on Wednesday last, when 1,779 lbs. were offered, against 1,377 lbs. in 1935. The quality of the consignment was fairly good, but not quite up to the usual standard, a number of the lots being very damp. The demand generally was surprisingly good, and everything was cleared "under the hammer" with brisk competition. Prices for certain grades showed a sharp advance on last year's limits, and in the case of pickings there was an increase of about 7s. per lb. Pile 3 was also sold at an increase of from 5s. to 7s. per lb. Whilst the demand for the home trade was small, there were a number of orders from the Continent, many of which were unfulfilled, as apparently they were given at lower limits than were realised in the sale. Furthermore, dealers were anxious to replenish stocks, and competed strongly as the auction advanced. We give below full details of the offerings and prices realised, together with last year's prices:

Quality	Quantity	Price 1935	Price 1936
Firsts	lbs. 96	57/- to 61/6	60/-
Firsts and Seconds	17	45/	44/-
Seconds	280	40/- to 41/-	42/- to 42/6
Thirds	396	30/-	35/- to 37/-
Pickings :	250	27/- to 28/-	33/- to 34/6
Pickings and Cuttings	67	_	27/- to 29/-
Cuttings	495	23/- to 25/-	26/- to 26/6
Waste	178	_	_

Chamomiles.—Values are steady at previous prices, as to quality, with business rather quiet.

CLOVES.—Values are fractionally easier, with the market still quiet. Zanzibar, spot, 8&d.; shipment, December-January, 7&d. per 1b., c.i.f. Madagascar, in bond, 74d.; shipment, December-January, 7d. per lb., c.i.f.

The landings of Zanzibar in London during the week ended November 28 were 82, and the deliveries 22, leaving a stock of 1,879. From January 1 to date the landings of Zanzibar have been 4,741 and the deliveries 3,749. Landings of Madagascar for the week ended November 28 were nil, and the deliveries 62, leaving a stock of 1,041. From January 1 to date the landings of Madagascar have been 3,177 and the deliveries 3,497 packages.

COCOA BUTTER.—Values continue to advance sharply, market firm. Prime English, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., foreign 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb., as to quantity.

COCONUT (DESICCATED).—Values are being maintained while business is slow: spot, fine, 27s.; medium, 26s. 6d. per cwt.; shipment, halves, December, 26s. 9d.; January, 27s. per cwt., c.i.f.

Cod-liver oil.—Bergen reports the shipment is steadily maintained on quotation, business fair. Finest Lofoten steam-refined non-freezing medicinal oil, 96s. to 97s. per barrel, c.i.f. London. Newfoundland non-freezing medicinal oil, about 130s. per barrel, ex store. British non-freezing medicinal oil is now quoted at 92s. to 100s. per barrel, c.i.f., London, duty free, while quotations from another home source are at higher figures.

Colchicum.—Spot supplies of root are quoted at about 45s. per cwt. and seed at 11d. per lb., ex store.

Damiana leaves.—A little more inquiry, with spot stocks at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., as to quantity.

Dandelion root.—Dealers continue to quote small parcels of foreign root on spot at about 80s. per cwt., ex store.

Derris root.—Inquiry for shipment continues on a good scale, with bulk quantities quoted from  $8\frac{1}{2}d$ . to  $8\frac{3}{4}d$ . per lb., c.i.f., basis 17 per cent. ether extract, and the tone is slightly firmer.

Ergot.—There has been a marked lack of actual business but a fair amount of inquiry. A parcel of about a ton of Russian was offered for shipment at about 3s. 9d., c.i.f., but found no buyers. Portuguese, spot, 5s.; shipment, about 4s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

Gentian.—Continues steady on spot, with supplies limited and held for about 45s. per cwt.

GINGER.—Business on the quiet side, values unchanged on the week. West African, spot, 65s.; shipment, January-March, 42s. per cwt., c.i.f. Jamaican, spot, bold in barrels, 85s. to 90s.; small grinding, 60s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt., in bags, ex store.

Gum acacia.—Market is still slack and quoted cheaply: spot, Kordofan cleaned sorts, 38s. 6d.; bleached No. 1, 100s.; extra, 115s. per cwt.; shipment, Kordofan cleaned sorts, 35s. 6d. per cwt.. c.i.f.

Henbane.—Dealers report small sales on spot with the quotation about 8os. per cwt.

Honey.—Market continues fully steady on spot for all descriptions and moderate sales are reported. Jamaican, 42s. to 50s. for dark manufacturing to pale set. Californian, white clover, 52s. 6d., duty paid. Canadian, white clover, 50s., ex store. Mexican firm at 39s. 6d., duty paid.

Hydrastis.—Business has been negligible: spot, 12s. 6d. to 12s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d., as to quantity; shipment, 12s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

IPECACUANHA.—The demand for good test Matto Grosso on spot continues, and up to 7s. has been paid. Matto Grosso, B.P. test, 7s. 3d. per lb.; root just under B.P. test offering from 6s. per lb.; shipment, nominal.

Kola Nuts.—Washed African halves in short supply and steady at 3d. per lb. West Indian halves, 3½d. per lb.

LOBELIA HERB.—The spot demand is slow, with sellers from 7d.; shipment is steady at 61d. per lb., c.i.f.

Lycopodium.-Dealers' prices for small parcels on spot are held at 4s. per lb.; business quiet.

Manna.—Fresh arrivals of selected flake in 1-lb. tins quoted on spot at 3s. 9d. per lb., ex store.

MENTHOL.—The Japanese product continues fairly steady, with a MENTHOL.—The Japanese product continues fairly steady, with a moderate business transacted: K/S brands, spot, 12s. 1½d. to 12s. 3d.; in bond, 11s.; no quotation for November-December shipment. Business done at 10s. 3d. for December-January, 10s. for January-March, and 10s. 6d., c.i.f., for distant afloat, with no re-sellers. Chinese, B.P., is offered on spot at 12s., and finds a steady sale. No shipment offers of new crop. English synthetic is quoted unchanged from 2s. 6d. to 15s. for per lib. as to quality and steady sale. No shipment offers of new crop. English synthetic is quoted unchanged from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb., as to quality and quantity.

MERCURY.—Spanish metal continues firm, spot and forward, with shipment offers accepted despatch when possible from Alicante; spot stocks small. Quoted at 68 dollars per bottle, f.o.b. Continent: 2s. per bottle, c.i.f. London; spot, in small lots, £14 5s. per bottle, ex store.

Opium.-Fair business in small quantities, with values steady: spot, Turkish, 1s. 2½d. per unit, landed and duty paid. Persian, 1s. per unit, in bond.

ORANGE PEEL.—Some thin cut Tripoli is quoted at about 1s. 3d. for fair bright down to about 11d. to 1s. per lb. for ordinary.

ORRIS ROOT.—Dealers are asking up to 45s. per cwt. for small parcels of Florentine, on spot.

PEPPER.—Moderate business, market steady and level on the week. Lampong, in bond, 2½d.; shipment, November-December, 2½d.; January-March, 2½d.; March-May, 2½d.; April-June, 2½d.d., c.i.f. Tellicherry, spot, 4½d.; shipment, December-February, 33s., c.i.f. White Muntok, in bond, 5d.; shipment, November-December, 4½d.; January-March, 4½d. per lb., c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—Values are maintained, business quiet: spot, 82d. per lb.; shipment, December-January, 76s. per cwt., c.i.f.

QUASSIA CHIPS.—Spot supplies are now quoted at about 20s. per cwt., ex store, for small parcels.

QUILLIAIA BARK.—Occasional business on spot, with whole bark from 25s, to 27s, 6d, and crushed bark about 34s, per cwt. ex store.

RHUBARB.—A better demand for Shensi this week. The cheaper grades of this article are firm and in limited supply. Spot, Shensi, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; pickings, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. Rough round, all pinky, 1s. 7½d.; three-quarters pinky, 1s. 6d. per lb., ex store; shipment, ordinary quality, 1s. 4d. per lb.

RUBBER.—Values show a further good advance, fair business closing rather quieter. Standard ribbed smoked sheet, spot, 8\\\^2\_6\d.; December, 8\\\^2\_6\d.; January-March, 8\\\^2\_6\d.; April-June, 8\\\^2\_6\d.; July-September, 8\\\^2\_6\d.; October-December, 9d. per lb.

SAFFRON.—It is still almost impossible to get supplies forward. Any available here would be about 80s. to 85s. per lb.

Sarsaparilla.—Average business, market steady: spot, Jamaican, grey, 1s. 2d.; native, mixed colours, 11d. to 1s. per lb., as to quantity, spot.

Germandy, spot.

Seeds.—Anise.—Spot, Bulgarian, 30s. per cwt., duty paid. Canary.—Market quiet: Mazagan, 28s. 6d.; Turkish, 26s.; Plate, 25s. 6d.; Spanish, 70s., all spot, duty paid. Caraway.—Dutch quoted at 35s., spot, duty paid; 31s., f.o.b. Holland. Coriander.—Morocco spot now offered at 12s. 9d., duty paid. Cumin.—Morocco on spot quoted at 32s. 6d., duty paid, and 30s., in bond. Fenugreer.—Spot Morocco is 14s., duty paid. Fennel.—Indian quoted at 32s. 6d., spot. Mustard.—English, 21s. to 30s. per cwt., according to quality.

Senega.—Business shows no signs of revival. Spot, is. 6d. to is.  $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ , as to quantity; shipment, is. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

SENNA.—There has been a little more enquiry, and good green Tinnevelly leaves offer on the spot: No. 1, at 5½d.; No. 2, at 4d.; No. 3, at 2½d.; No. 4, at 2½d., with parcels of old crop faded leaves available at slightly cheaper rates. Hand-picked Tinnevelly pods continue in fair request at 5½d. per lb. for good palish, down to 3¾d. for dark grades. Alexandrian: the market continues bare of supplies, and best bold hand-picked pods offer at 1s. 3d. to 2s. 9d. per lb., ex wharf.

Shellac.—Values have fallen back, market dull: spot, standard TN orange, 50s. to 55s.; fine orange, 62s. 6d. to 125s.; pure button, 60s. to 65s. per cwt., spot. For delivery, TN, December, 50s.; March, 52s. For arrival, TN, December-January, 49s., c.i.f.

SLIPPERY ELM BARK.—Some limited sized spot business. Wired bundles, is. 2d.; grinding quality, 7d. per lb., ex store.

Strophanthus root.—Dealers are offering new crop seed at about 2s. 10½d. to 3s. per lb., as to quantity.

Tonka beans.—Some fair frosted Para beans offering on spot at 3s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. Angostura, 8s. to 8s. 3d. per lb.

Tragacanth.—The London market has been distinctly quiet this week, with values for all qualities nominally unchanged. No shipments coming forward from the source.

Wax.—Bees'.—Supplies short on spot and shipment offers are restricted. Hamburg reported to be buying on this market. Calcutta, bleached, spot, 135s.; shipment, November-December, 128s., c.i.f. Abyssinian, spot, 125s.; in bond, 114s.; shipment, 114s., c.i.f. Benguella, spot, 125s.; shipment, 110s., c.i.f. Conakry, no spot available; shipment, 112s. per cwt., c.i.f. Dar-es-Salaam, spot, 122s. 6d.; shipment, steady at 120s. per cwt., c.i.f. Carnauba.—Only a small spot business being done. Fatty grey, spot, 156s.; afloat, 148s.; shipment, December-January, 140s., c.i.f. Chalky grey, spot, 155s.; afloat, 143s.; shipment, December-January, 140s., c.i.f. Primeira, spot, good quality, 210s.; f.a.q., 200s.; afloat, 195s.; shipment, December-January, 187s. 6d., c.i.f. Mediana, spot, 205s.; shipment, 185s. per cwt., c.i.f.

#### Essential Oils, etc.

Business is maintained on a very fair scale, with chief interest maintained in the Sicilian oils, which continue strong markets. Spanish rosemary has sold well on spot. Japanese peppermint is steady and moving off on spot. The American natural peppermint is again firmer at the source.

Almond.—Shipment quotations for foreign oil continue to weaken. Spot business rather quiet: English-made, cwt. lots, 3s. 5d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 7d. per lb.; foreign, cwt. lots, 3s. 3d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 6d. per lb. French, bitter, 7s. per lb.

Anise (star).—Moderate spot business at steady prices. No shipment offers from source and second-hand sellers appear to have been cleared: spot, leads, 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.; tins, 3s. to 3s. id.; druins, 2s. 9½d. per lb., ex store; shipment, nominal.

Bay.—Values maintained on a quiet market: 49 to 50 per cent., 4s. 9d. to 4s. rod.; 59 to 60 per cent., 5s. to 5s. 12d. per lb., as to quantity.

Bergamor.—Advices from the source this week indicate there is nothing available for offer but a quantity may be released during December or, alternatively, in January. The shipment quotation is nominal at 11s. 3d., c.i.f. Fresh supplies will be arriving here during the coming week, with sellers from 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity and brand. Generally, the market is firm.

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Bors DE ROSE.—The spot demand continues limited; Brazilian, spot, 5s. to 5s. 2d., as to quantity; shipment, 4s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

Cajupur.—Average spot demand, quoted unchanged: B.P., is. iod. to 2s. 3d. per lb., as to quantity.

Cananga.—Shipment offers, which continue at cheap figures, fail to attract much business: spot, about 7s.; shipment, in the region of 6s. per lb., c.i.f., for bulk quantities.

CARAWAY.—A little more inquiry, with the Dutch oil quoted steadily to come forward: Dutch rectified, 7s. 3d.; crude, 6s. 9d. per lb., landed and duty paid.

Cassia.—Shipment market has been dull; quoted at 2s. 7\ddrag{d}. per lb., c.i.f. Good quality oil on spot is valued at 3s. id. and inferior oil at cheaper prices.

Cedar leaf.—The demand on spot remains poor, with small parcels quoted at about 5s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5s. 6d. per lb.

CEDARWOOD.—A limited business is reported, with quotations for good quantities keen: African, in drums, about 1s.; smaller packages, up to 1s. 3d. per lb. American, in drums, about 1s., smaller packages, up to 1s. 3d. per lb.

CITRONELLA.—Not much interest in these products, with values about unchanged: Ceylon, spot, drums, is. o½d. to is. id.; smaller parcels, up to is. 4d.; shipment, drums, ii½d. per lb., c.i.f. Java, drums, in bond, is. 5½d.; smaller parcels, up to is. 9d.; shipment, drums, is. 5½d. per lb., c.i.f.

CLOVE.—Madagascar oil continues firm and in small supply on spot, with limited shipment offers. Zanzibar bud oil is moving

quietly on spot: Madagascar, spot, drums, 3s. 9d.; smaller packings, up to 4s. per lb.; shipment, 3s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f. Zanzibar bud oil, spot, 4s. per lb., in drums. English-made oil, from 4s. per lb.

EUCALYPTUS.—Fair demand on spot for Australian oil, with supplies limited and firmly held. Shipment inquiry cannot be satisfied at the moment, only January despatch offering: Australian, 70 to 75 per cent., 1s. 6d.; 80 to 85 per cent., 1s. 7d. per lb., landed, higher prices for small lots on spot. Spanish, 70 to 75 per cent., 1s. 7d. per lb., ex store. Australian, shipment, January, 70 to 75 per cent., 1s. 3½d. in cases and 1s. 3d. in drums, c.i.f.

Geranium.—Markets are dull and irregular on quotation, as to description and quality of the oil: Bourbon, spot, 17s. to 19s. 6d.; shipment, 17s. to 17s. 6d., c.i.f. Algerian, spot, 17s. to 19s.; shipment, 15s. 3d. to 15s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. Belgian Congo oil at competitive prices.

Grape-fruit.—Market has been quiet: Californian oil on spot is quoted at about 10s. 6d. to 12s. per lb., as to quantity.

Ho (Shiu).—Fair inquiry continues and shipment quotations are very steady: spot, is. 7d. to is. iod. per lb., as to quantity and quality.

JUNIPER BERRY.—A little more doing on spot, with dealers quoting at about 2s. 1od. to 3s. 3d. per lb., as to quantity.

LAVENDER.—Some small orders done on spot, otherwise market is dull: French, 38 to 40 per cent., ranges from 14s. 6d. to 17s. 3d. per lb., as to source and quantity, with some blended oils at cheaper prices. Lavandin is offered from 6s. to 8s. 3d. per lb., as to quality and quantity.

Lemon.—Substantial business is reported in shipments of Sicilian hand-pressed oil, with good quantities of oil now afloat. The new crop is now quoted from the source at ros. 1½d. to ros. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., January, February and March shipment. Old oil for prompt shipment, about 9s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f. Spot and near afloat oil is quoted from about 9s. 6d. per lb., landed. All stocks of Californian oil, cold-pressed and distilled, have been cleared and the source has nothing to offer for this market at the moment. Values are nominally unchanged.

Lemongrass.—Practically no inquiry for shipment this week, with the quotation about 1s. 5¼d. per lb., c.i.f. Small spot parcels would be about 1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Nutmeg.—Some small spot sales, with American oil quoted at about 5s. 3d. to 5s. 4d. per lb., as to quantity. \end{tabular}$ 

Orange.—There has been a fair amount of inquiry this week for new crop French Guinea oil and some shipment business was done early on. There are now buyers at 2s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f., but the source has withdrawn with no offers but indications of 2s. 9d., c.i.f. Sicilian sweet and bitter oils are quoted unchanged and dull. Californian, spot, one case, 4s.; two or more cases, 3s. rod.; small drums, 3s. 9d.; large drums, 3s. 8½d. per lb.; business quiet.

Palmarosa.—Market is keeping steady, moderate inquiry: spot, 5s. 10½d. to 6s.; shipment, 5s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

PATCHOULL.—Market remains rather dull: Singapore oil, spot, 16s. 3d. to 16s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity.

PEPPERMINT.—A very fair volume of business on spot is recorded, with the market about steady. Japanese, spot, 5s. to 5s. t½d., as to brand; afloat sold at 4s. 8d., c.i.f. Good business in November-December at 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d., c.i.f. No offers from the source for November-December shipment; December-January, 4s. 9d., and January-March, 4s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f. Re-seller, January-March, 4s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f. Chinese oil on spot sells slowly at about 5s. per lb. No offers of new crop for shipment, shippers stating they are not interested in current prices. The American natural oil is reported dearer for shipment at about 2 dollars 30 to 40 cents per lb., c.i.f., but no interest is shown; spot supplies are plentiful and offered at comparatively cheaper prices.

Petitigrain.—Occasional business on spot: spot, about 3s. 6d. for cases and up to 3s. 9d. for smaller quantities. Shipment, 3s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f.

Rosemary.—Business continues good at the recently reduced figures with Spanish oil on spot quoted from about 2s. 3d. to 2s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., as to quantity. No shipment offers.

Sandalwood.—Genuine East Indian Mysore, 19s. per lb., in one-case lots on spot; practically no second-hand offerings. Englishmade East Indian, 22s. 6d. to 25s. per lb., as to quantity. Englishmade West Indian, business done at 7s. 3d. per lb. Australian oil continues steady; five cases, 14s. 6d.; one case, 14s. 9d.; 7-lb. tins, 15s. 3s. per lb.

Sassafras.—Market remains rather quiet: natural oil, spot, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. per lb., as to quantity. Artificial oils at cheaper prices.

Spearmint.—Spot stocks are moving slowly, with quotations in the region of 8s. 9d. per lb.; shipment reported steadier at 8s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

SPIKE.—A modest business has been passing this week, with good quality Spanish oil steady at 5s. per lb. Offers have been received from 5s. to 5s. 3d., c.i.f., but shipment cannot be guaranteed.

Wormseed.—Not much business moving: spot, U.S.P. quality, 9s. to 9s. 3d.; shipment, about 8s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

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# Correspondence

Correspondents may adopt an assumed name, but must in all cases furnish their real name and address to the Editor

#### The Labelling of Vinegar

SIR,—In a recent issue, under the heading "The Labelling of Vinegar" [C. & D., November 14, p. 552], you quote a circular from the Association of Pure Vinegar Manufacturers. After an outburst against propaganda it says: "There is no authority whatsoever for stating that non-brewed vinegar may not be sold as table vinegar." This statement entirely ignores the authority on which practically all public analysts act—Dr. Hamill's report to the Ministry of Health, which definitely recommends that artificial vinegar should be so described. The words "table" and "pure" scarcely conform to this.

I would also respectfully point out that the British Pharmacopæia is not a standard for food, and that the three aceta quoted by your correspondent, acetum scillæ (vinegar of squill) and acetum.

I would also respectfully point out that the British Pharmacopæia is not a standard for food, and that the three aceta quoted by your correspondent, acetum scillæ (vinegar of squill), acetum cantharidini (vinegar of cantharidin), and acetum urgineæ (vinegar of urginea) actually have little bearing on the matter as the use of generic names describing compounds bearing no relation to the generic substance is fairly common. This is derived from the early practice of classification through appearance, taste, etc., rather than by scientific analysis. The British Pharmacopæia itself provides a number of analogous cases. A few are:—

Oleum Theobromatis (cocoa butter), p. 315. Sulphur Præcipitatum (milk of sulphur), p. 416. Plumbi Acetas (sugar of lead), p. 341. Sulphur Sublimatum (Flowers of sulphur), p. 416. Potassii Tartras Acidus (cream of tartar), p. 356.

but these substances bear no relation to butter, milk, sugar, flowers or cream. Neither does vinegar of squill bear any relation to vinegar, as generally understood. Lastly, there was published in the "Analyst" of January 1934 a recommendation from the Society of Public Analysts for the standardisation of vinegars [C. & D., 1935, II, 132].—Yours faithfully,

For British Vinegars, Ltd., Henry S. Sarson, Director.

London, S.W.8.

#### Federation of Branches

SIR,—We welcome the criticism, but do not share the fear, expressed by your correspondent "Confederate" (C. & D., November 28, p. 631) respecting the effect of our recommendation to appoint a councillor as chairman of a district meeting. It is to actualise the ideas underlying federation, so ably expressed by your correspondent, that we advocate the policy of an intimate link between council and district. The success of federation would depend to a great extent upon the district secretaries appointed. To suggest that a district meeting would be swayed by its councillor chairman is a reflection upon the acumen and intelligence of its members. The ultimate aim is to get the views of the branches accepted by the Council, and the chairman, as district representative, would be responsible for carrying such views into the Council chamber. The Reading Branch does not favour an elaborate system of federation. The chief utility of district meetings would be the preliminary discussion of motions suggested for consideration at the annual representatives' meeting.—Yours, etc.,

A. GREENWOOD WATKINS, Hon. Sec. Reading Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society.

SIR,—Either I did not express my point sufficiently plainly in my previous letter, or Mr. Eirwyn Owen (C. & D., November 28, p. 631) has failed to grasp what I intended to convey. He says that the Council might turn down a resolution from one branch, but if that resolution came from a federation of three or four branches the weight is multiplied by that number. In the case in point, the declaration of occupation by candidates for the Council, the resolution was passed at the delegates' meeting at the Conference, and thus had the backing of numerous branches and a majority of members of the Society. But Mr. Owen says that in his opinion the delegates' meeting is not representative of the branch members. Let us suppose a federation has been formed of several adjacent branches;

how will it function? Presumably there must be officers and a committee with representatives from the branches concerned elected by the members of those branches. Then comes the question of the frequency of the meetings and the members who attend them; will they be confined to the delegates from the component branches or open to all members? Whichever way one answers these questions I cannot see that the result would be much different from the present system, except that it would interpose a secondary stage between the ordinary branch meetings and the yearly conference. And the more machinery involved, the more unwieldy it becomes.—Faithfully yours,

DELEGANS (1/12).

#### Oldham Manifesto

SIR,—The manifesto from Oldham (C. & D., November 21, p. 576) deals first with pharmacists who take apprentices for the sake of cheap labour. The original resolution from Oldham to the delegates' meeting at the Conference was to the effect that only one apprentice should be allowed to any pharmacist during a period of six years, a resolution which was withdrawn ultimately in favour of one expressing satisfaction with the steps taken by the Council. This complaint of cheap labour was made more frequently in pre-war years. But even in those days, when there were no requirements to be satisfied concerning the indentures or the course of study, cheap labour did not exist in the form it does at present, because the employees in retail pharmacies consisted of apprentices, improvers and assistents who, if they were not qualified, were serving or had served a regular apprenticeship. The greater evil of to-day, partly brought about by the shortage of assistants during the war period, consists of the employment of young people, mainly girls, who are engaged without any previous knowledge of the trade, with no preliminary educational certificate, without indentures, and with no intention of proceeding to a qualification. They acquire just sufficient experience to render them able to serve customers with ordinary goods, to do the packing, window dressing and regular routine duties of the shop; some of them learn enough to dispense simple prescriptions, and then they call themselves chemists' assistants. They are in a sense in a blind-alley occupation, and at the same time they add to the problem of unqualified competition. With reference to that part of the Oldham manifesto dealing with the occupation of candidates for the Council, I do not think any retail chemist either wishes or expects the Council to be composed solely of retailers, but retail chemists are afraid of pharmacy becoming, to use Mr. F. Newby's phrase, the handmaid of the financier. If a pharmacist connected with a company stands as a candidate for the Council, it can only follow that retail members of the Society ask themselves whether his policy on the Council will not be dictated sometimes by the persons and interests controlling the business.—Yours truly,

DEKLARIT (24/11).

#### Grocers on Their Dignity

SIR,—The conventional saying "circumstances alter cases" takes on a concrete meaning when one reads the report headed "Grocers and the Sale of Ammonia Solutions" (C. & D., November 28, p. 604). According to this the Yorkshire Council of Grocers' Associations has discovered a loophole in the Pharmacy and Poisons Act of 1933; it appears that while the licensed sellers of Part II poisons have to pay for the privilege of selling household ammonia, certain misguided manufacturers are marketing an "inferior" article containing less than 5 per cent., and are persuading retailers to sell it without a licence. Prior to this Act there was a similar position with regard to lysol and phenolic disinfectants; some manufacturers used to pack solutions below the minimum strength and market them through grocers and other unqualified traders. Then the argument was that the restrictions gave the chemist an unfair monopoly of sale; but now in the case of ammonia it becomes "misleading, an imposition on the public, and a great injustice to the public."—Yours truly,

NH<sub>3</sub> (30/11).

# Miscellaneous Inquiries

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles nor to publish supposed formulas for them

- R. B. (27/99).—TINCTURE OF IODINE.—If you use the title "Tincture of Iodine," the preparation must be strictly according to the B.P. As regards the irritant nature of the iodine solution made with industrial spirit, this is due to the presence of acetone in ordinary industrial spirit and can be overcome by obtaining a variety made specially for dissolving iodine.
- I. L. (Cyprus).—Electric liniment.—A liniment prepared from either of the following formulas will meet your requirements:—

1		I			
	Capsici			 	5j.
	Ol. terebinth			 	Oj.
Macerate	and add:				
	Menthol			 	5 j.
	Ol. origani			 	Зііj.
	Ol. gaulther.			 	ξj.
	Ol. camph. ess.			 	Oj.
		I	I		
	Ol. terebinth. re	ect.		 	Oiss.
	Ol. sassafras			 	₹iij.
				 	Зvj.
	Methyl salicyl.			 	Зііj.
	Ol. camphoræ e	ssent.		 	Oiss.
	Pulv, capsici			 	3 iss.
	Rass. santali			 	Зvj.

T. H. H. (13/98).—Hand lotions.—These preparations are generally of two types: (1) Glycerin solutions of the glycerin, rose water and benzoin kind, and (2) gelatinous liquids made with tragacanth, quince seed, or some other suitable colloid. The glycerin lotions work well with some skins and are the most satisfactory to an occasional individual, but as a rule they are not the best. A formula for tragacanth lotion is as follows:—

Tragacanth	 	 	gr. 80
Glycerin	 	 	žss.
Boric acid	 	 	zss.
Oil of bergamot	 	 	M iv.
Oil of lavender	 	 	M ij.
Oil of rose	 	 	Μj.
Water	 	 to	₹xvj.

A bleaching hand lotion can be made from the following formula:—

Citric acid Compound	 tincture	of	 laven	der	4·8 gm.
					96 · o c.c.
Alcohol (95 pe	r cent.)				240 °O C.C.
Water					240 °O C.C.
Glycerin				to	1000.0 c.c.

H.~S.~(16/94).—Blackhead paste.—The following paste should be applied at night, and the blackhead expressed in the morning:—

Acetic ac	per o	cent.)	 	2
Glycerin	 		 	3
Kaolin	 		 	4

A. L. (27/89).—After-shaving spray.—An antiseptic spray for use after shaving can be made according to either of the formulas below:—

		1			
Boric acid					3 ss. 3 ss.
Tincture of qu	illaia	• • •			
Bay rum	• • •		• • •	• • •	<u>3</u> ij.
Glycerin	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	3J. <sub></sub> .
Burnt sugar		• • •			a sufficiency
Water				to	ZXX.

Dissolve the boric acid in the water without heat, then add the tincture, bay rum, and glycerin, and tint with burnt sugar. This is diluted, prior to use, with an equal quantity of water.

	11			
		 		1½ to 2½ dr.
		 		1 oz.
Witch hazel, dist	illed	 		5 oz.
	• •	 • • •		IO OZ.
		 		as desired
Distilled water .		 	to	20 OZ,

F. J. (27/98).—Permanent waving solution.—It is unlikely that there is anything wrong with the formula, which, as you say, has worked well until quite recently. The trouble probably arises from the inside of the cylinders having become corroded by the action of the alkali upon the metal, in which case all that is necessary is to treat them with fine emery paper. A clean but dull cylinder gives the best results. As an alternative to your formula you could try the following:—

Strong	solution	of ar	nmonia	 	I oz.
Borax				 	ı dr.
Water				 	2 OZ.

- J. D. (28/II).—Moisture in window.—Exsiccated salts have been used for this purpose, and we suggest you experiment with sodium acetate or calcium chloride. So soon as the salts become moist, it is only necessary to put them in a hot oven to drive off the moisture, so that they could be used over and over again. It is essential, of course, that the window be airtight.
- J. F. D. (Texas) (27/94).—FURNITURE POLISH.—The following are formulas for modern furniture polishes:—

	Was	x Paste			
Carnauba wax					30 lb.
Beeswax					15 lb.
Ceresin wax					15 lb.
Turpentine		• • •			26 lb.
Naphtha				• • •	24 lb.
Stearic acid			• • •		8 lb.
Triethanolamin	.e	• • •	• • •		4 lb.
Water	• • •		•••		65 lb.
	Liqu	id Wax			
Carnauba wax					10 lb.
Beeswax					4 lb.
Ceresin wax		• • •	• • • •		4 lb.
Naphtha	• • •	• • •	• • •		80 lb.
Stearic acid	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • • •	8 lb.
Triethanolamin	.e	• • •		• • •	4.5 lb.
Water					200 lb.

Melt the waxes and stearic acid and add the triethanolamine. Temperature should be about 90° C. Add the naphtha slowly so that a clear solution is maintained. Using a water or steam-jacketed kettle prevents overheating and also caking of the waxes on the sides of the container. Add the boiling water to the naphtha solution and stir vigorously until a good emulsion is obtained and then slowly until the emulsion is cold.

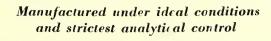
## Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago

Reprinted from

"The Chemist and Druggist," December 4, 1886

#### Apprenticeship in Scotland

The third meeting of this session [of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants' and Apprentices' Association] was held on November 24, Mr. William Duncan, president, in the chair. Mr. A. R. Robbie read a paper on "Apprentices." The reader first pointed out that in Scotland an apprenticeship generally lasted for a period of four years. Indentures were almost unknown, and the apprentice generally received a salary ranging from £5 for the first year, to £25 for the last. With regard to the relationship between master and apprentice, it was much to be deplored that in too many cases the former assumed a position of unsympathetic superiority, while the latter was kept in slavish fear. There was no mutual confidence and esteem, and thus the apprentice was left too much to himself, the master apparently trying to get as much work out of the apprentice as possible at the minimum cost. . . . On the other hand, apprentices were not all alike. Some were lazy, others indifferent, and others studious. He thought that the payment of apprentices should be discontinued, and that instead thereof masters should allow time for attending classes and pay the expenses.



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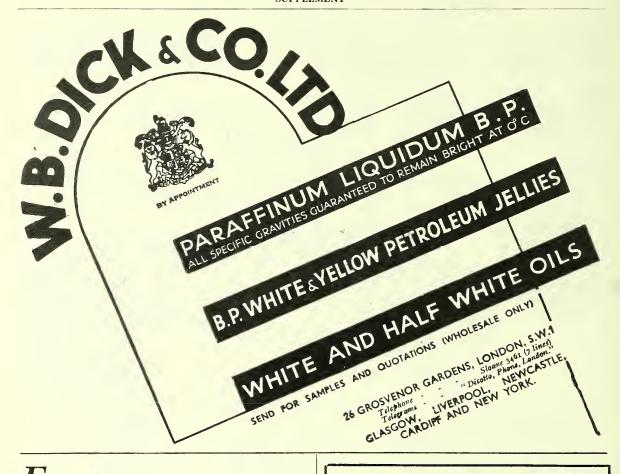
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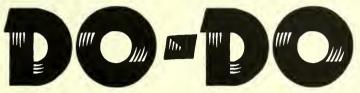
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Rich in life-giving Vitamins. Three pastilles contain the equivalent in Vitamin A to one teaspoonful of Cod Liver Oil. Delicious flavour.

Tins,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. 4/-; 3 oz., 6/6; 4 oz., 8/- per doz.

FERBER

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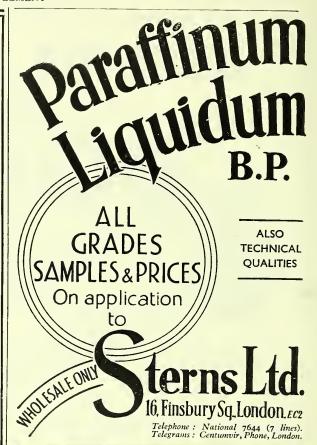
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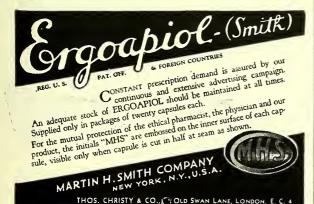
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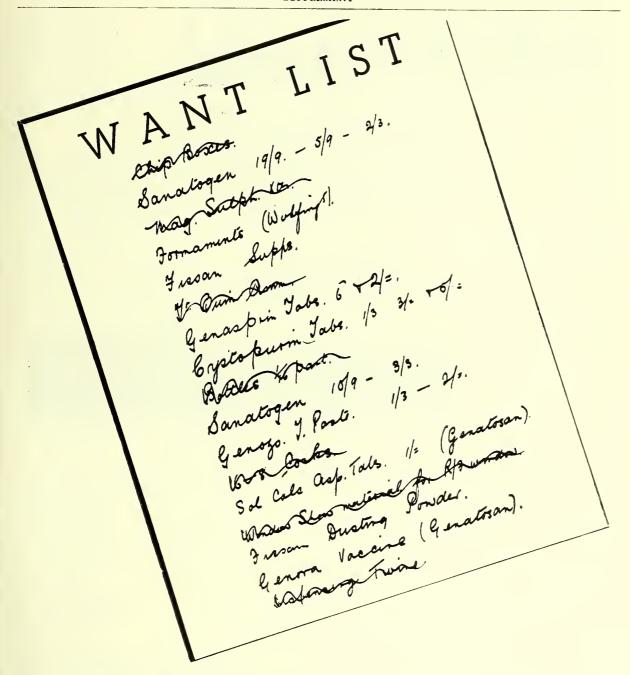
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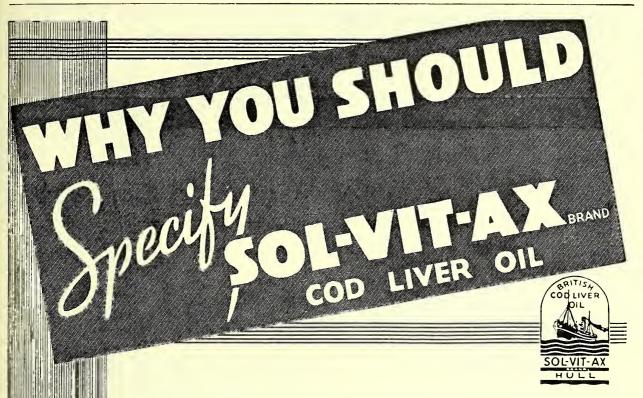
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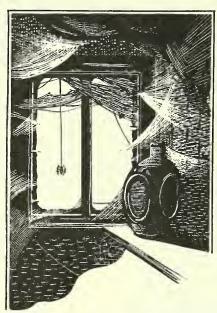
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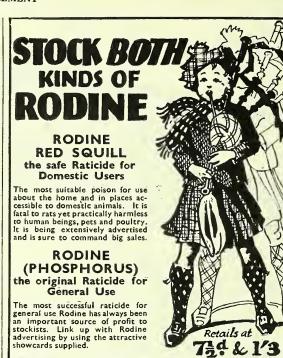
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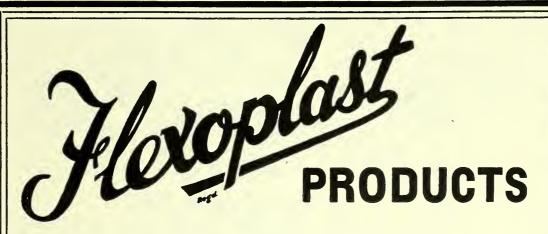
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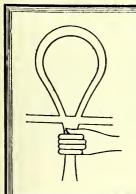
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# HEMIST AND DRUGGIST

This Supplement is Inserted in every copy of The Chemist & Druggist

28 ESSEX STREET, LONDON, W.C. 2

DECEMBER 5. 1936

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and Goodwill plus stock and fixtures at valuation.

5.—PIMLICO.—Good Class Business offering scope for increase; turnover over £1,500 per annum; profit rental; valuable stock and fixtures; genuine reason for disposal; price £250 plus stock and fixtures at valuation; stock can be lowered to suit purchaser.

6.—TOOTING. — Main Road Business for disposal; takings present rate £20 per week; very valuable sublets; scope for increase; heavy stock, beautiful modern double-fronted shop which cost £300; price for immediate sale £600 all at.

beautuli modern double-fronted shop which cost £300; price for immediate sale £600 all at.

7.—BATTERSEA (DEATH VACANCY).—General Retail Business offering scope for increase; present rate of takings £15 per week; net profit £5-£6 per week; new Lease at £65 per annum; price all at £450 or near offer.

8.—LEWISHAM.—Cash Drug Store for sale making about £3 per teek net profit; nice living accommodation over; very reasonable rental;

all-in price £250.

9.—EDGWARE.—General Retail Business in good position; turnover £2,000 per annum, scope for increase with additional capital; stock and fixtures worth £600; long Lease at reasonable rent; price £1,000 all at or

10.—KENT (GOOD CLASS SUBURB).—Family Retail Business for sale owing to contemplated retirement; in present hands over 20 years; takings last year over £2,100; Audited Accounts; very attractive living

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11.—MANCHESTER.—Middle-class Business with Photographic and Panel; takings £2,000 last year plus N.H.I. (average 550-600 scripts per month); modern fixtures with Neon Sign estimated to be worth £250; stock worth approximately £50; excellent modern living accommodation over; rent only £68 per annum; price all at £1,550 or valuation terms entertained.

12.—STREATHAM.—Middle-class Business; established about 10 years; takings £1,400 per annum, scope for increase; mahogany fixtures; good, clean, saleable stock; nice living accommodation over; price £700 all at or valuation terms entertained.

all at or valuation terms entertained.

13.—BRISTOL,—Light Retail and Prescribing Business; high ratio of profits; takings about £1,500 per annum; stock worth £500; three storeys over; price of business £1,220 or valuation terms entertained.

14.—HENDON.—For immediate sale owing to ill-health. Modern double-fronted shop with sub Post Office attached; net profit over £4 per week; very nice living accommodation; bathroom, etc.; reasonable rental; stock and fixtures worth about £400; inclusive price £350 all at or near offer.

rental; stock and fixtures worth about \$f400; inclusive price \$f350 all at or near offer.

15.—ROCHESTER.—Drug Store for sale; net profit over \$f3\$ per week; well situate; small accommodation; very low rental; price all at \$f150.

16.—HEREFORDSHIRE.—Country Retail Business with Agricultural and small amount of Veterinary; established about 100 years; takings average \$f2,450\$ per annum; stock worth \$f900; fixtures \$f400; nice living accommodation over; rent only \$f60\$ per annum; price \$f.600\$ all at or near offer, or valuation terms entertained.

17.—ILANELLY.—Mixed Retail Business with Pharmacy, Seeds, Wines, Spirits, etc.; returns last year over \$f2,700; gross profit 37 per cent.; stock worth \$f900; fixtures \$f300; nice living accommodation; price all at \$f1,100\$ or valuation of stock and fixtures only.

18.—CLACTON (NEAR).—Drug Store for sale; takings last year averaged \$f12\$ per week under lady management; rent only \$f16\$ per annum; good clean stock and adequate fixtures; price all at \$f100.

19.—SOUTH LANCASHIRE.—Family Retail Business with a certain amount of Mixed Trade; increasing turnover, last year being \$f810\$, this year will be more; gross profit 35 per cent.; rent only 10s. per week; stock worth \$f300-f350; price \$f550\$ net to Vendor.

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good position; turnover approximately £1,750; excellent profits; stock worth about £500; comfortable house over; rent only £70 per annum; price £1,250 all at or valuation terms entertained.

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(C6) MANCHESTER.—Go

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 $E^{\rm SSEX.-Young}$  Junior Assistant, male, required at once; please give full particulars of age, experience and salary required. 178/12, Office of this Paper.

L ONDON, N.—Unqualified Assistant required for Dispensing and Counter; send full particulars, age, height and salary required. 178/34, Office of this Paper.

L ONDON, W.1.—Junior Qualified Assistant, male, required for Dispensing Counter of high-class West End business; excelent prospects; full particulars, age, height, previous experience, and salary expected. 291/572, Office of this Paper.

L ONDON, W.5.—Young, Unqualified Lady Assistant for the Toilet Counter during the Christmas season, from December 7 to 24; previous experience essential. Apply, with full particulars, to 178/32, Office of this Paper.

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LADY Assistant required at once for good-class business; Counter, good Window-dresser. State age, height and salary required, Kennards, Chemists, Sycamore Road, Amersham.

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m ADY,~Qualified,~required~for~East~End~Chemist;~light~duties;}$  state salary. 178/8, Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED Assistant immediately; must be of good appearance and address; full particulars first letter. C. J. Roe, Chemist, Epsom.

QUALIFIED Locum required immediately for week or two. "Chemist," 8 Selhurst Road, South Norwood, S.E.25.

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TAYLORS DISPENSING CHEMISTS have several vacancies for Unqualified Assistants in the London area. Apply, giving fully details, to Retail Staff Manager, 70 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

TEMPORARY Stocktakers required, with good all-round experience of the Retail Trade; must be quick and neat writers, Apply by letter only, stating experience and salary required, Berdoe & Fish, 41 Argyle Square, King's Cross, W.C.1.

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WANTED for new Pharmacy, North Kent, Qualified man or woman, Dispensing, Counter; good Window-dresser; only experienced Pharmacists, with clean habits and willing to work, need apply; applications declined unless replied to within 7 days; state experience, age, salary required and when free; replies treated confidentially. 178/44, Office of this Paper.

WANTED.—Part-time Assistant; used N.H.I. and quick Counter; Wednesday and Thursday, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Latters, Ltd., 46A St. George's Road, London, S.E.1.

WANTED.—Qualified Chemist-Optician. Apply, stating age, qualifications and experience, also salary required, to Hull Co-operative Society, Ltd., 26 Jarratt Street, Hull. Superannuation scheme in operation. Applications to be received not later than December 8.

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CHEMIST-OPTICIAN; experienced; reliable; disengaged December 14; own Optical Equipment; locum, permanency. "Chemist-Optician," 21 Kidbrooke Lane, Eltham, London, S.E.9.

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ADY, Hall; excellent all-round experience; very capable; highest references; whole or part time; free now. 291/573, Office of this Paper.

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QUALIFIED Chemist, elderly, reliable, desires post as Superintendent; light duty; short hours; terms moderate. "Registered," 178/15, Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED; disengaged; 20 years' local experience; permanency or relief; Dispensing, Counter. Holmes, 241 Manchester Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport.

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